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"The Standard" is an exponent of the principles and a weekly record of important facts affecting social problems and rational politics. It especially advocates the following great reforms:

THE SINGLE TAX. This means the abolition of all taxes on labor or the products of labor, that is to say, the abolition of all taxes save one tax levied on the value of land irrespective of improvements.

FREE TRADE. Not "tariff reform," but real free trade; that is, as perfect freedom of trade with all the world as now exists between the states of our union.

BALLOT REFORM. No humbug envelope system; but the real Australian system, the first requisite of which is the exclusive use at elections of official ballots furnished by the state and prepared and cast by the voter in compulsory secrecy.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

EDITORIAL. Mr. George's Description of the Sail from Australia to the Mediterranean—Glimpses of India and Arabia—Speaker Reed's Seat in Danger—Interfering With the Privacy of the Mails—Ballot Reform in Pennsylvania—Senator Gorman on the Tariff—The Force Bill—The People's Municipal League—The Conference—Pennsylvania Grangers for Pattison—The Revolt Against McKinleyism—Conscienceless Greed of Chicago Land Owners.

THE WESTERN MAN. Chas. Edward Turner. **GODKIN'S CHARGE ADMITTED.** David L. Thompson.

HOW THE TARIFF REDUCES WAGES. William Saul.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER. Henry George, Jr. **AN ENGLISH ELECTION.** Rev. Harold Rylett.

PERSONAL NOTES AND QUERIES.

GEORGE IN AUSTRALIA. His Farewells in Melbourne and Adelaide.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR. Multum in Parvo—When There Were No Poor—An Object Lesson in the State Region—Caucuses and Conventions.

BALLOT REFORM. The Law and the Facts—Searching for Holes in the New Ballot Law—The Law is Perfectly Clear on the Matter—The Measure Explains Itself—The Australian System Indorsed.

THE FREE TRADE FIGHT. The McKinley Bill—The Conference of Clubs on Congressional Campaign—The Workingmen's Tariff Reform League—The Atchison, Kan., Champion Bolts the G. O. P.—Reciprocity! Yes!—Belshazzar Once More—The Stupidity of Subsidies—Jimmy and His Dad—How to Capture Canada—About Blaine—Rich Subsidy Pickings—Cracking the Shell.

SINGLE TAX NEWS. The Platform—Single Tax Plates; a New Field for Workers and a Call for Immediate Action; Now is the Accepted Time—Levi H. Turner on His Travels; a Letter from Him from Washington State—Single Tax Letter Writers; Report and Recommendations of Secretary W. J. Atkinson—The Petition—"Der Vetter is Too Hot to Make Propagandas in New York City"—The Brooklyn Club Gives an Assessor Valuable Advice—The Boston Men Will be Largely Represented at the National Conference—The Paterson Club Denounces the Force Bill—A West Virginia Postmaster Sees Justice in the Single Tax—A Single Tax Man Nominated for the West Virginia House of Delegates—An Object Lesson from Connorsville, Ind.—A Kentucky Farmer on the Labor Cost of a Subscription to THE STANDARD—The Good Work of the Chicago Men—The St. Louis Club Will Send at Least Five Delegates to the Conference—Dr. Chase's Circular—A Kansas Single Taxer Nominated for Congress in Kansas—News from Other States. **SOCIETY NOTES.**

EDITORIAL.

NAPLES, July 17.

When I closed my last letter to THE STANDARD we were steaming along the Ceylonese coast, but with the wind on shore, so that we missed the spicy scent that can be distinguished far to leeward. Shortly after midnight the red light of the Colombo breakwater glared through our ports, the steamer's anchor dropped, and around her rose a babel of shouts and cries and laughter from the clustering coal barges crowded with dusky figures. On both sides of the steamer stages were rigged, one above the other, and then, passed in baskets, from hand to hand, the coal began to rattle into her well nigh exhausted bunkers. The first flush of the dawn, that came with glory, revealed a scene fresh with interest—the smooth harbor inside the long breakwater, over which every now and again some huge wave, larger than its fellows, rose, and toppled and fell in cataract; the peaceful shore, with white buildings gleaming through a wealth of graceful tropical foliage; the fishing boats (called catamarans by the whites, but directly opposite in the principle of their build to the raft-like catamarans of the coast of Brazil, being long, narrow canoes, with outriggers, carrying, well forward, a square sail set from two masts, springing upward, like the arms of a V) slipping through the water on their seaward quest with amazing rapidity; the country brigs, possessing in full detail a rig, once common in European vessels, but now becoming rare; the awninged gigs of ports officials and steamship agents, with brightly turbaned crews; heavy coal barges, moved slowly by the long oars of their all but naked gangs; steam launches, and almost every other kind of floating craft, make up a most striking panorama; while with the dawn the sellers of all sorts of things began to clamber up the steamer's sides and spread their wares on the after deck.

On the shore, escaping the clamor of guides in the only possible way by letting one follow, we found still more of novelty and interest to western eyes. Trying for a few minutes the ginrickshaws, which have been successfully introduced from Japan by an English company—light carts drawn by coolies wearing but a scant waist cloth; and finding that here, as in Australia, hotel breakfasts are on no consideration to be had before 9 o'clock, we took an open carriage for Mount Lavinia, a hotel on the sea, some six or seven miles distant. In the cool of the early morning the ride was most delightful, recalling to me the pictures of a ride from Calcutta to Barrackpore the year before the Indian mutiny broke out there, which have remained graven on my memory. The road was through one village of shop, villa, temple and dwelling hut, set in a forest of cocoanut, banana and other tropical trees. Everybody was up and out, for the native use of a house is to sleep in, and domestic life in all its phases was going on by the sides of the road, while along it poured a most picturesque stream of pedestrians and vehicles. All sorts of costumes or no costumes—children naked as they were born; larger boys whose dress is a piece of string tied round the waist; bullock drivers, porters or laborers in waist clothes; Cingalese of the more dressy class arrayed in a

tortoise shell comb and a piece of stuff tucked round their waist like a full petticoat; Indians of a merchant caste, with the upper parts of their bodies covered as well, and high straw hats on their heads; women more or less draped, but all gracefully; Buddhist priests in yellow robes, carrying their begging bowls, and occasionally a European in ginrickshaw or carriage, in white suit and pith hat, the only ones in all the throng who confined their feet by any covering.

The common beast of burden is the little mouse-colored bullock, with high hump over his shoulders and long horns, and he serves as well for buggy horse or family carriage, as for cart and wagon duty, being driven as we drive horses by a bit in his nose. The Colombo bullocks all seemed plump and sleek and well conditioned, and the pride their owners take in them is shown by the most elaborate ornamentation—many of them being literally covered with a maze of scroll and arabesque work, in raised ridges made by knife or branding iron. Cruelty it is, such as needs an Indian Bergh, yet it is hardly wanton cruelty. For the aboriginal Australians and other races ornament themselves in the same painful way, of which the tattooing so common among sailors is but a milder form. If the passion for ornament will thus lead men to cut and puncture themselves, this carving of his bullock by the Cingalese into what he considers beauty can hardly be deemed mere wanton cruelty. Nor am I certain that the bullocks do not like it—that is, the result, not the operation. For I fancied at least that they seemed in step and air to show a certain pride of decoration, just as the elephants of Indian rajahs are said to unmistakably show the pleasure of gratified vanity when their foreheads are painted and their tusks are gilded, and they are decked in all the gaudy trappings of eastern state.

But I might grow tiresome were I to attempt to picture the varied impressions of this little glimpse of India—the European hotel at Mount Lavinia, with its spacious, lofty halls, and crowds of servants in tortoise shell combs and white tunics, and the spinning spray of the glorious surf, the cinnamon gardens and beautiful drives; the hotel of the town, where passengers gathered under the long, waving punkas and a serpent charmer won a shower of sixpences and shillings by deft sleight of hand and by making horrid looking cobras dance and strike, and then winding them around his neck; the schools, consisting of a pavement and three foot wall with raised roof, where native children are learning most excellent English; the crowded bazaars and open workshops; and native stores, where it seems to take from six to a dozen more or less clothed people to sell a visitor anything, and they begin operations by sitting him down, starting a punka over his head and asking for an article two or three times what they are really willing to take.

We did not go to the great Buddhist temple of Colombo, as we might have done, had I known, as I was afterward informed by a theosophist whom I discovered among our passengers, and who had been for awhile his pupil, that the chief priest was a Mahatma, who can, when he wants to, do surprising things. But allured by the inviting shade of a by-path, we left our carriage on the main

road and strolled to a minor Buddhist temple outside the town, to see the sacred well, the shaven-headed brethren of the yellow robe, the pictured hells and heavens, the colossal figure of Buddha, the reverently swathed and shrined scriptures, written on strips of bamboo, the altars laden with native flowers—all encircled and overshadowed with graceful, grateful trees. In one chapel a sweet faced mother, with a little babe, lay on a bed stretched before a sort of shrine, while within it two yellow robed priests chanted from the holy books what evidently were prayers for recovery from illness. It is no wonder that the first Catholic missionaries who encountered Buddhism thought it a parody of Christianity got up by the devil to forestall and prevent the spread of the true faith.

Ceylon is the only part of India where Bhuddism, that once swept the whole country like a reformation, yet remains alive. But Bhuddism is far from being the exclusive belief. A great part of the people adhere to the old religion taught by the Bramins, while Christianity in pretty much all its forms is represented, not merely by missionaries, but by native converts, or the descendants, pure or mixed, of the Dutch and Portuguese, who in their turn held Colombo. And the Salvation army has here, too, its hall, and its devoted soldiers. Surely, General Booth must take high rank among great organizers. Wherever we went in Australia, in the small towns as well as the larger towns, we found a Salvation army. And though their work has its ebbs as well as its flows, the universal testimony of disinterested people is that it has done good. In the New South Wales parliament, by the bye, one representative sits in the uniform of the Salvation army.

One thing impressed me in Colombo that impressed me in Calcutta when there years ago—the general comeliness of the people—and I can well understand how Dr. Livingstone, when at length beholding white faces after a long sojourn among the blacks, was almost shocked by their pallor. The features of all these people are generally fine and regular, and their expression intelligent, the young people, boys and girls, being especially handsome. Want of native intelligence certainly does not stand in the way of India's adopting all that is good in western civilization. But there is much else that does. Irreconcilable habits of thought, rooted and ingrained through an enormous mass; the utter lack of patriotism; the absence in great bodies of the manly and fighting qualities—perhaps at the bottom climate—make a gulf across which it is yet difficult to see how any bridge can be thrown. In the meantime, for good or for evil, for action and reaction, steam and electricity are bringing the east—the mass of the earth's population—within the sphere of the western world.

At Colombo we left our Indian passengers to take steamer for Bombay or Calcutta, and took on others from China, Java, Singapore, etc. We were sorry to part with our Anglo-Indians, some of whom we had found most agreeable and instructive.

It was a busy scene around the Valetta as the last coal barges were emptied and the decks were cleared. As the traders departed, having parted with a good part of their wares at preposterous discounts on their first prices, the performance of diving for money commenced. On nar-

row rafts of light wood, with bits of bamboo for paddles, groups of boys danced and shouted for passengers to throw in money, after which they would dive like fish. They followed us, dancing and shouting till the gathering way of the steamer left them astern. Then gradually the city grew dim, and the last catamaran skimmed by on its homeward way, with men sitting on its outrigger beams; the land sank as the sun dropped before us into the sea, and we were off to breast the monsoon across the Arabian sea.

But the monsoon did not come as quickly or as strong as we had feared. At first it was only a light air, and then a breeze, gradually strengthening without rising to a gale, and we steamed along without closing a port till one afternoon a sea swept into our starboard staterooms. It poured in on me as I was sitting at my typewriter, laying that up for repairs, destroying a lot of STANDARD manuscript, and setting things swimming. But even after this the weather was good enough to keep the deadlights open, and our captain keeping to the south till we were well over to the African coast, we did not feel the force of the monsoon until the bare wild peaks of the island of Socotra, near the mouth of the gulf of Aden, gleamed in the sun to windward. Then it whistled and howled, but we were under the lee of the island, and after a rough interval during the night, we came on deck the next morning to find ourselves in the calm water of the gulf and out of the monsoon, and with the most dreaded part of our passage fortunately over. The steamer that brought us at Aden the Bombay mails and passengers was not so fortunate. Her bulwarks had been stove in, her boats smashed, her decks swept and her saloons flooded, and her passengers came aboard our steamer vowing that they would stay in India rather than breast the monsoon again.

The Fourth of July came to us in the Gulf of Aden, but though the sun rose bright and clear and hot, it was probably no hotter than in New York some hours later. While British energy, and capital, and trade are finding wide fields in all that great part of the world for which the Suez canal has become the highway, so effectually are we hemmed in by our protective tariff that Americans count for just nothing at all on this great avenue of trade and travel, and we were surprised when the bugle rang out the familiar strain of "Yankee Doodle" in the morning call. And on deck that day the band played "Hail Columbia" and the "Star Spangled Banner," a pleasant little evidence of that warmer feeling between the two great countries which, in spite of demagogues, is growing up. The captain of the Valetta is what may be termed a "radical jingo"—proud to the last degree of English pluck and English strength. But in his galaxy of great Englishmen Washington and Jefferson and Lincoln hold high place.

This was all the Fourth of July celebration we had, except that an Australian handed me an English paper containing a biting description of how San Francisco is ruled by a democratic boss, assisted by a republican boss, I read it and said nothing. What could I say? I wish the majority of Americans could realize as I have been forced to realize how all over the world our bosses, our rings and our political corruption is a scorn and reproach.

The rocky peninsula of Aden, most important as a commercial and naval station on the highway to the east, is as desolate a looking spot as could be found on a most desolate coast. The sun does not always shine on Aden, any more than it always

rains in Grennock; but fresh water is a very scarce and dear commodity, and is only obtained by condensing it from the sea, and by treasuring up of what rain does fall in a series of ancient tanks built up in the hills back of the town.

The swell in the harbor was so heavy that very few of our passengers ventured ashore. I was among the few that did, but having so far yielded to the seductions of that universal language which speaks in the laugh of little children, though no word be understood, as to distribute some small coins among the smallest and cunningest of those who came about me, I was soon surrounded by such a grinning, shouting, capering mob of naked, or nine-tenths naked youngsters that I had to jump into a trap and get the driver to put his horse to its speed in order to escape. And once on the road I trusted to his declaration that he could get me to the native town and tanks and back in time for the steamer. There is not much to be seen in Aden, but what there is is most interesting. It is a glimpse of Arabia, as Ceylon is a glimpse of India—the bare volcanic hills, the fortifications, the series of tanks—which this year are filled with water that is hauled up in buckets and carried off in bags—the line of Arab dhows in the native harbor, the bazaars of the native town with their outdoor life, the patient, miserable looking camels, many of them muzzled to prevent their retorting for their treatment in savage bites, the one-storied houses, as bare outside as packing boxes, the big men on little jackasses, the closely covered vehicles in which native ladies were being conveyed, the muffled women, the groups of men working, chatting, smoking water pipes or stretched out sleeping, and the whole tone and character of the scene are intensely interesting to the stranger, for a little while at least.

One thing noticeable at Aden is the number of Somalis from the opposite African shore—negroes of a handsome type. This is a free emigration, and gives a suggestion of what the possibilities of Africa in that direction may be. Certain it is that the European nations who are striving to carve up the dark continent between them, cannot find in it a new America or Australia. They may establish provinces as in India or Java; but not colonies. With the suppression of the slave trade, the cessation of war and the establishment of order, it is the black race, not the white, that will multiply, at least in all that part of the vast continent beyond the Mediterranean coasts. The negroes will not wither and disappear before us, like the red man of America and the black fellow of Australia. On the contrary, in all the tropical and sub-tropical countries their vitality is superior to that of our race. It may be that the greatest, if not the only possibility of civilizing Africa, and that with the English language for a tongue, lies with the colored people of the United States.

The Somalis are, of course, Mohammedans. Around the ship as the time for her departure drew near, we had an exhibition of swimming which threw that of Colombo into the shade, and the water was fairly alive with black faces and forms—Somalis all. They swam, and dived for money and cut "monkey shines" as though in their native element, all the while shouting in a sort of cadence: "Have a dive; have a dive; heave! heave!" And then, as the sun drew still closer to the horizon, one or another would swim to a boat, and after ablutions, performed as carefully as though he were not just fresh from the water, would produce a cleansheet from somewhere, and wrapping himself decorously in it, would stand in the sternsheets, say his prayers and per-

form his genuflections, and prostrate himself before Allah and in memory of the prophet, utterly regardless of the din around.

We were as fortunate in the Red sea as in the Arabian sea, having all the time either a light head wind or a dead calm, during which the motion of the steamer herself made a pleasant breeze, utilized as much as possible by wind sails stretched out of each port. The thing here to be dreaded is a light, fair wind, which on the moving steamer produces the effect of a calm. Our highest temperature in the shade, though the sun was directly overhead, did not exceed 96 or 97; but on account of the humidity this is felt more than the same temperature in a dryer atmosphere would be.

In the Red sea we began to pass many steamers—nearly all British, for eighty percent of the commerce passing through the Suez canal is British. Of course we did not see, and did not expect to see, an American vessel. The statistics of the canal for the past year show that between twenty-five and twenty-six hundred British steamers passed through as against five American. Even this hardly shows the real state of the case. For these five American vessels were doubtless war ships sent sailing round the world at the expense of the American tax payer in order to give an excuse for keeping up taxes.

Passing at length into the Gulf of Suez we ran along the barren shore of the Peninsula of Sinai, its bare, rugged mountains gleaming in the fierce sun, presenting in all probability precisely the same appearance that they did when Moses led the Israelites along their base; and before sunrise on the morning of July 10 we had the Suez pilot on board and were in the canal. Through this narrow ditch in the bare sand our steamer pushed along at five miles an hour, tying up now and again to let another vessel pass, or slowing down while she tied up, save in the Bitter lakes, the ancient arms of the Red sea that the canal has again flooded, where we ran along full speed.

As we are running along the Sinaitic peninsula, Captain Briscoe, who is a man of wide information and varied reading, as well as a thorough seaman, read to a few of us a paper on the Exodus, in which he traced the journeyings of the children of Israel, and pointed out where, by what are now the Bitter lakes, Moses, who as a priest of the Temple of the Sun that once stood on their banks and as son-in-law of the Sheik of Midian, knew the country and the waters, carried over his people in safety, while the chariots of Pharaoh, mercenaries to whom they were strange, were overwhelmed by the rising tide. Though from shipboard there is but little to be seen of the countries that in this part of the journey we coast and pass through, yet even that little rouses the imagination, and makes the men of the far past seem more real and human.

The palaces at Ismalia, where the sweet water canal comes in, are set in green, and the station houses of the canal are fresh and commodious, and have some little shrubbery, as they are supplied with fresh water by ditches or pipes; but all the rest is an utterly barren desert, broken only by a little mosque or two, and occasionally some tents or rude shelters, temporary habitations of the crowds of Arabs, who, with long strings of camels, are here and there engaged in widening the canal, or rather setting back the banks. This is a slow, and, one would think, a very costly process, for the poor beasts, though kneeling down to have their panniers filled with sand, observe a period of contemplation between every

step and the next as they toil painfully up the ascent. The company have some powerful steam dredges at work on the canal. These have long arms through which the sand, as it is scraped up, is carried, where the bank is low, to a considerable distance from the water.

Night fell while we were yet in the canal, but a powerful electric light under the steamer's bow lit up the buoys between which it is necessary to keep, and by 9 o'clock the lights of the town and the babel of voices from clustering boats and barges announced Port Said.

This is said to be now (exclusive, I presume, of shipping ports) the greatest coal-ing port of the world, and vessels are certainly coaled with marvelous expedition considering the primitive method—strings of Arabs, carrying coal baskets, running up and down long planks laid from the barges to the steamer. Port Said is a rapidly growing town, with some twenty odd thousand of a population of the most heterogeneous character; and with railway communication with Cairo would grow much faster. We had two hours and a half to see the streets and shops and cafes, and then, through an atmosphere greatly cooler and dryer than any we had felt for some time, we were off into the Mediterranean. Three days of steaming through the bluest of seas, in the most delightful weather, a good part of the time with Crete and Zante and Cephalonia and other islands in sight, brought us before daylight, on the morning of the 14th, to Brindisi, where we disembarked, the Valetta, with the greater part of her passengers, keeping on her way to Malta, Gibraltar, Plymouth and London. From Brindisi, a journey of thirteen hours through a picturesque country brought us to Naples.

HENRY GEORGE.

Speaker Reed has been so busily engaged in ruling the house of representatives that he has apparently had no time to "boss" his own congressional district. He must have recently received advices from home that indicate the possibilities of his defeat, or at least of a decided reduction in his customary majority. He has therefore enlisted the services of the secretary of the navy in his behalf, and that functionary has taken steps to set a large number of men at work in the navy yard at Portsmouth, N. H., just opposite Kittery, in Mr. Reed's district. The ostensible purpose is the repairing of a lot of worthless ships and the erection of new buildings, but no one doubts that the real object is to exercise patronage in behalf of Mr. Reed's election and possibly to colonize the district from New Hampshire, since Maine elects its congressmen in September instead of November. This is a fair example of the methods by which autocrats of the Reed school seek to maintain themselves in public positions in defiance of the will of the people.

That lotteries are gambling devices peculiarly adapted to induce the poor to part with their hard earned savings is unquestionably true, and it probably comes properly within the police power of the state to suppress such institutions. In most states this has been done, but public opinion in Louisiana still permits the chartering of lottery companies despite the universal contempt which such action brings upon that state. For some time past the government of the United States has been concerning itself with this matter, and has sought to take a hand in the suppression of the business by prohibiting the use of the mails by lottery companies. This legislation has not yet met with any success. Deacons Harrison and Wanamaker are greatly stirred up on the subject, and are pro-

posing to congress the passage of a bill that would practically open the mails to the inspection of government officers, with a view to ascertaining whether or not lottery letters or circulars are contained in them. We seriously doubt if the government of the United States has any right to attempt the regulation or suppression of the lottery business outside of the District of Columbia and the territories, and we are perfectly sure that any attempt to do so by giving post office officials the right to examine and break open private correspondence will be a dangerous usurpation of power fraught with more injury to the public than is the lottery business. It is a new step toward centralization and tyranny that should be vigorously resisted, no matter what the pretext offered for it.

The executive committee of the ballot reform association of Pennsylvania has recently put forth an elaborate plan for getting round the constitutional provision of Pennsylvania which now stands as an effectual barrier against any attempt by legislation to give to the voters of that state a really secret ballot. We do not care to waste space in the discussion of the various forms of evasion proposed, but we fully agree with the opinion of the York Gazette that such efforts will necessarily prove futile. There is but one way to accomplish true ballot reform in Pennsylvania, and that is to amend the existing constitution, which appears to have been devised for the express purpose of enabling employers to intimidate employees. All talk about the necessity of the identification of ballots in judicial proceedings is foolishness, because the mere fact that, under proceedings easily instituted, it can be discovered how men voted, is of itself sufficient to make intimidation easy and certain. Mr. H. L. Forster of Oil City and Alfred N. Chandler of Philadelphia are respectively president and secretary of the Pennsylvania ballot reform association. We take it for granted that these gentlemen and their associates are sincerely anxious for ballot reform, but that they are led by some local prejudice or foolish state pride to the defense of Pennsylvania's unique system of numbering ballots. They probably do not see that they are standing in the way of any true ballot reform and absolutely crippling the movement in that direction by causing an appearance of divided counsels among its friends. The Australian system is the best possible safeguard against fraud, and the Australian system cannot be established in Pennsylvania till its present constitution is radically amended.

Senator Gorman, in his recent speech opposing the McKinley bill, declared that the democratic party, "from the foundation until now, has been in favor of levying duties sufficient for a government economically administered, and that in the levying of those duties the necessary incidental effect is now and always will be to give all the protection that American industries require." The New York Sun, which hails Mr. Gorman as the leader of the democratic party since Mr. Randall's death, speaks of this as an "authoritative statement of the democratic doctrine on that lately confused, be-deviled, falsified and upsetting topic, the tariff." We by no means accept Mr. Gorman's position as sound, for we deny point blank that the tariff can, under any circumstances protect American industries, or that American industries require any such protection. Nevertheless, the doctrine enunciated by Mr. Gorman is emphatically opposed to that of the Sun's hero, the late Mr. Randall. Mr. Gorman makes a flat declaration in favor of such tariff duties as are sufficient for a

government economically administered, and declares that the incidental effect of such duties is to give all the protection that American industries require. That is to say, Mr. Gorman declares in favor of a tariff for revenue only, and insists that such a tariff is all that the friends of protection can ask for. How, then, can the Sun endorse Mr. Gorman?

The prospect that the force bill will not be taken up by the senate grows better from week to week, though Reed and his fellow-conspirators are aroused to the situation and scheming to bring pressure to bear on the senators. The independence of caucus dictation shown by Senator Plumb and others on the tariff question appears to render it unlikely that the republicans can be united in behalf of the passage of a gag law for the senate, and if this cannot be accomplished it will be impossible to bring the force bill to a vote between the present time and the November elections. If it does not pass before the country is heard from it will never pass.

The People's municipal league is proceeding systematically with its work, and it has just elected Mr. James P. Archibald chairman of its executive committee in place of Mr. Julien Davies, who resigned on account of intended absence from the country. The New York Times sneers at Mr. Archibald's election, simply because he is a representative of organized labor. The Times, despite its hatred of Tammany, would doubtless rather have the city governed by that organization than lend any countenance or assistance to a movement in which workingmen, as such, are represented. Where the Times expects a reform movement to get its votes from we do not know, but we are safe, we think, in saying that Mr. Archibald is in many ways representative of a body of voters much more numerous than the readers of the Times.

THE CONFERENCE.

The enrolment committee is receiving numerous responses from individuals and organizations which go to show that the single tax conference in this city on September 1 will be a large and representative body. Among those who have announced a positive intention to be present is Judge Maguire of San Francisco. Clubs everywhere are beginning to elect delegates, and hundreds of individuals who cannot be present write to express their regret, and in some cases they send contributions toward meeting the expenses of the conference. The interest is so universal that it cannot fail to assure a fine gathering.

The responses from clubs and individuals are only beginning to pour in, and it is impossible at this date to make any accurate estimate of the probable attendance, since a comparatively small percentage of the clubs have yet been heard from officially. Outside of New York and its vicinity, however, the present responses promise the attendance of over ninety delegates from twenty states, as follows: Alabama, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee. This does not include large delegations expected from Philadelphia and Baltimore and the larger cities of New York state, nor the full delegation from Boston. The indications are that there will probably be 300 delegates from outside of New York and vicinity, and there is reasonable ground for hope that the number may be larger still.

Negotiations are in progress to secure a reduction in railway fares to delegates, and, though they are not completed, we have reason to believe that they will

prove successful and that the price for the round trip will be one and one-third the fare for one way. If so the delegates will buy a ticket to New York at regular rates and receive a certificate that, when countersigned by the secretary of the enrolment committee, will entitle them to a return ticket for one-third the regular rates. We cannot make any definite announcement in this issue of THE STANDARD, but hope to be able to do so in the next. The arrangement involves correspondence with six different associations of trunk lines, and it cannot be completed all at once.

Mr. George's cable dispatch announced that he would arrive on September 1. We take it for granted that this means that he will probably arrive on Sunday, August 31, as very few steamers get in on Mondays. We shall doubtless have more definite information on this head inside of a week. If he is to arrive on Sunday many delegates will doubtless arrive in town in time to meet him on that day. We are glad that the gathering promises to be so successful, and hope that no effort will be spared to make it a magnificent success.

PENNSYLVANIA GRANGERS FOR PATTISON.

The unexpected often happens, and it is by no means impossible that Robert E. Pattison and Chauncey F. Black shall be elected governor and lieutenant-governor of Pennsylvania. One straw indicating that the wind sets that way is found in a recent open letter by Leonard Rhone, master of the Patrons of husbandry in that state. Mr. Rhone says that he has received returns from over 400 subordinate granges to which letters were sent asking an expression of their preferences as to the gubernatorial nominations of the two parties. An overwhelming majority of democratic farmers declared for Pattison or Black and an equal majority of republican farmers for Hastings or Taggart, and the farmers of both parties made strenuous efforts at the primaries in behalf of their favorites.

Mr. Rhone says that "had it not been for the arbitrary interference of a political dictator and the stupid obstinacy of a few managers, the preference of the farmers would have been regarded by the republican convention. As it was, however, he continues, "corrupt and corporate influence combined prevailed and the Standard oil corporation candidate was nominated for governor." In the democratic convention, on the other hand, he says the nomination of Pattison and Black was a triumph for the people over the corporations. The patrons did all in their power to secure the nomination of fair and acceptable men by both parties. In one case their wishes were acceded to, and in the other their demands were refused. Therefore, Mr. Rhone continues:

This now ceases to be a contest between the democratic and republican parties, but becomes a contest between right and wrong—a contest for supremacy between the people and the corporations—a contest for justice and equity and the supremacy of constitutional government. The candidate on the side of the people is ex-Governor Pattison, a man true and tried, whose character is above suspicion. The candidate on the side of the corporations and corrupt powers of the state is Senator Delamater, a man who has been tried and found wanting, whose word cannot be trusted—who, after the most positive promises that he would vote for the farmers and peoples' tax bill, went back on his pledges.

This is not a national contest in which protection or free trade is involved, but that of the election of state officers—a state issue between the people and those who would subvert and overthrow the design and spirit of our institutions.

We do not ask farmers to change their political principles, but we ask them to enforce them by refusing to vote for men who misrepresent their interests when in political office, as did Senator Delamater. Then, and only then, will the party of our preference nominate men that the people want.

There is no uncertainty about this, and if Mr. Rhone speaks for the Patrons of

husbandry, a new and important force has arrayed itself against Boss Quay's candidate. If the Patrons of husbandry are at all unanimous in the support of Pattison and Black it is more than likely that many other farmers will vote the same way, and as there is no doubt that thousands of workingmen hitherto republicans are disposed to vote for the democratic candidates, their election is clearly within the range of possibility.

THE REVOLT AGAINST MCKINLEYISM.

The greed of the protected monopolists seems likely in the end to bring about their own undoing. The McKinley bill pushes the protective doctrine to its logical extreme, which is, not merely the restriction, but the practical prohibition of imports. A large portion of the republican party has been brought reluctantly to a quiet acquiescence in the new departure, simply because the rank and file are not accustomed to taking the initiative and the leaders of the party have not had the courage to defy Reed, McKinley and the other bosses who have unhesitatingly cracked their lash over the back of every man who, like Butterworth, even hesitated about accepting their programme.

Blaine's reciprocity scheme, accompanied by his savage criticism of the McKinley bill, has paved the way for revolt, and western senators who are in touch with constituencies influenced by the farmers' movement are beginning to be restive under the rule of Reed and his co-conspirators. On Friday of last week Mr. Plumb of Kansas took an active part in the debate on the clauses increasing the duty on fire bricks, tiles, cement and pottery. He boldly questioned the claim of the protectionists that the tariff reduces prices, and openly voted with the democrats against the proposed increase. On the hydraulic cement amendment Mr. Paddock of Nebraska joined Mr. Plumb in voting with the democrats, and these have since been joined by Ingalls of Kansas and Manderson of Nebraska. There is no doubt whatever that there are other western senators who would join in this revolt if they dared face the hostility of the party bosses.

Of course the republicans who undertake to resist the Reed-McKinley programme still claim, as does Mr. Blaine, to be good protectionists, and they will seek to accomplish a mild reduction of duties rather than to abolish them altogether. They take this course under pressure from their constituents, but not that the work of education has begun they will find that the farmers are moving too rapidly to be conciliated by any such tactics. We print under the heading of "The Free Trade Fight" the full editorial of the Atchison Champion, one of the leading republican protectionist papers of that state. It will be seen that the Champion does not stop with the protest against the attempt to increase duties. Frankly acknowledging that it has hitherto, with the utmost sincerity, believed in and supported the protective doctrine, it now declares that it has completely abandoned that idea and openly proclaims its conviction "that a protective tariff is one of the many things the west does not want and cannot afford to sustain." It improves on Mr. Blaine's proposal by declaring for "commercial reciprocity with all nations," and boldly asserts that "free trade will give the west the markets of the world, and an opportunity to buy what it requires at less than half what it now pays for these same articles."

Since the conversion of St. Paul there has been no more sudden or complete a conversion than this, and it is doubtless but a sample of thousands that will follow it. Men have been deceived into sincerely believing that the protectionist

policy is a good and necessary one. When their eyes are opened they do not stop to palter with percentages, but they accept the opposing principle at once and declare, as does this Kansas republican paper, that they are done with protection and want free trade. If the democratic party leaders had but the sense and courage to comprehend the lesson of such declarations and commit their party to free trade, their triumph would be more speedy and complete, and the party of protection would be swept out of power as completely as was the federalist party after the election of Jefferson.

CONSCIENCELESS GREED OF CHICAGO LAND OWNERS.

A Chicago dispatch to the New York World of last Saturday gives some curious inside facts concerning the controversy over the site of the proposed world's fair. The controversy, it seems, is one that has risen entirely through the personal interests of individual land holders. The local authorities offered to the board of directors of the Columbian exposition, as the fair is officially called, a site on Lake Michigan directly in front of the city. This lake front at present contains but about seventy acres of ground, but it was proposed to fill in 250 acres more and erect the exposition buildings on this "made ground." The Illinois Central railroad claims the right to any land thus filled in, and it has been generally supposed that this claim by a private corporation was the chief obstacle to carrying out a plan which would unquestionably give to the proposed fair the best available site in Chicago.

According to the World dispatch, however, the objection was of a very different character. Those proposing this site wanted a clause inserted in the law which should enable the park commissioners to take possession of the land after the fair is over, and convert it into a magnificent park in the center of the city. The city council refused to accept this proposal, and insisted that the lake should be filled in only on condition that the land thus acquired should revert to the city of Chicago, subject to the absolute control and disposition of its city council. This would have given to the city 250 acres on the lake front better situated for business purposes than the equal area constituting the present business quarter of Chicago. The result might have been the gradual removal of the business of the city to the new site, after the fair was over, and the mere suggestion filled the owners of real estate in the present business quarter with undisguised horror. Even if no transfer were made and the business of the city gradually extended over the new tract, the inevitable effect of opening it for use would be to lower the enormous prices now demanded for business sites in the heart of the city. The World dispatch says that if the price of \$3,000 a front foot now commanded by property in the business district could be obtained by the city for the proposed fair site, the selling of the land would put into the city treasury \$750,000,000. There is no doubt that prices would be such as to assure an enormous revenue to the municipality. The possible results were thus stated by one of the directors of the exposition to the World correspondent:

Should the city council obtain possession of that property and determine to offer it for sale on the open market the men whose interests are identical with those of the present business district of Chicago would be powerless to prevent the consummation of the deal, notwithstanding the fact that bankruptcy would inevitably come to hundreds of them. The aldermen would come before the people armed with arguments which could not be met, and would be upheld and re-elected by overwhelming majorities. In answer to our protests they would say: "We propose to put \$500,000,000 or more in the city treasury of Chicago. This money is to be obtained from the sale of newly created property. While it may temporarily result in a loss to certain

parties, their loss is the gain of the people of Chicago. If any permanent loss results it will be sustained by men abundantly able to stand it." There is a certain stern justice in this. Into the city treasury of Chicago will flow a part of what Henry George calls the unearned increment on land. Back to the people will come at least \$500,000,000, all of which and more has been created by the community at large and which is now owned by the fortunate possessors of a limited tract of land in the center of the city, whose value has steadily been enhanced by the community. With this immense sum of money the city council of Chicago, as the authorized representatives of the tax payers and voters of Chicago, will make that city the grandest in the world. With it we will pave every street in the city; extend the electric light system to the extreme limits of the city; construct and equip elevated roads, fixing the fares at the lowest possible rates; build new and magnificent parks, public grounds and boulevards; erect in every division of the city great public libraries, bath houses, beautiful temples of amusement and recreation. We can do all this, and upon the interest of the money yet remaining in the treasury conduct the business of the city so that not one cent would be demanded from the people by taxation.

"Do you suppose," continued the director, "that the people of Chicago would listen to our 'tale of woe' when such possibilities were opened up before them? They certainly would not. They would laugh at our protestations and jump at the chance to secure for themselves and their children the vast benefits which the creation and sale of the new business district would yield them. They would not complain even though the city council should steal fifteen or twenty of the five hundred or more millions placed in their hands. In order to prevent the threatened calamity the business men of Chicago would be compelled, unless the future city councils are far different from those of the past, to say nothing of the present one, to raise a corruption fund reaching far into the millions."

That the people of the city would derive enormous benefits from such a scheme is not denied by the director quoted. This would be the case even if the city were capable of the folly of selling the land outright while the present system of taxation continues. The reported objection of business men is not made by them as business men, since it would manifestly be equally to their interests to carry on trade in any part of the city. The real objectors are the holders of real estate who fear the effect of this opening of new sites, and the intense bitterness of their feeling and their readiness to sacrifice the interests of the city are admirably illustrated by the following utterance attributed in the World dispatch to one of the directors:

Sooner than place in the hands of the city council of Chicago the disposition of the 250 acres of land it is proposed to reclaim from the lake, the board of directors will bury the Columbian exposition so deep that Gabriel's trumpet will not reach it on the resurrection morning.

This declaration displays admirably the reckless greed that animates the land-holding class. The whole people of Chicago have set their hearts on the fair. The business men of the city are expecting that it will result in an enormous increase of trade. The workmen are looking forward hopefully to an increased demand for labor as an important result of the enterprise. All classes, animated by city pride, are enthusiastic in behalf of the exposition, and yet we find here a number of directors of the fair, themselves citizens of Chicago, who would disappoint all of these hopes, rob their city of the glory it anticipates, and make it the object of the gibes and ridicule of the whole country rather than run the risk of impairing land values in the present business quarter, though well aware of the fact that the process by which this would be accomplished would enable the public authorities to make Chicago the most beautiful and attractive city in the world. This exhibition of greed and selfishness is precisely similar to that which took place in Memphis, when the owners of unimproved property successfully conspired to prevent the extension of that city's limits for fear that their anticipated profits as land speculators might be reduced.

We, of course, cannot vouch for the

entire accuracy of all the details of the World's story. We give it as we find it; but if it is true, or measurably true, it ought to put into the hands of the single tax men of Chicago the materials for a most effective argument in behalf of the single tax. If 250 acres of new land sold would yield a gross sum, the interest on which would meet all of the municipal expenses and provide for parks, electric lighting and rapid transit, it is perfectly clear that the area now occupied by business would yield through the single tax a sum sufficient to accomplish these purposes; and therefore, our friends there can appeal to the very sentiment that the director quoted anticipated and feared, and they can point to the utter lack of patriotism and devotion to the city's interests exhibited by the present land owners as a reason why the interests of that wholly useless class should not be allowed to stand in the way of applying the single tax in that city.

THE WESTERN MAN.

All the brilliant societies of the world's history have forced this issue of the "Western Man" from the time of Cadmus to the time of Columbus. The same effects have caused the same results. The proud, independent, freedom loving spirit of man has sought the wild and virgin soil of new countries, where he can throw off the restraints of the effeminate refinements of kingcraft, priestcraft and that conservator of barbarism called lawcraft. The golden chains of superstition, divine right and law have robbed him of his natural rights and enslaved his labor, and he longed for new lands where his hands could be free to labor and his mind untrammelled to gaze from nature up to nature's God and worship as he wills.

Let us see who this western man is, and what he is, and what figure he cuts in civilization now. A wanderer with a band of followers left the shores of Egypt, and, sailing by the shore of Asia Minor, turned his galley's prow westward and landed on a western peninsula, and Cadmus founded Ion, the first Greek city. Afterward two leaders of western men, sailing westward, landed on the shores of Italy, and Romulus and Remus founded Rome. Descendants of the Scythians, in order to escape the trammels of Asiatic civilization and oppression, overran continental Europe, and after the strong hand of Charlemagne had molded them into a great empire, ten centuries of civilizing influences enslaved the race again by kingcraft, priestcraft and the craft that Richelieu and Mazarin called "politics."

The yoke of restraint could be borne no longer, and a crank named Columbus sailed westward and found a new continent on the other side of the globe. Again, as the civilizing influence began to be irksome, men took their rifles and their axes, and disputing with the Indian the dominion of the forests, gradually hewed their way westward until now, the close of the nineteenth century, finds the western man sitting on a rock, on the Pacific coast, like Alexander, who wept for more worlds to conquer. The western man weeps for more western lands to subdue. But what startling fact now stares him in the face? For the first time in all the earth's dark history there is no more west; and this western man turns around and glares upon civilized society like a stag at bay. Beware how you wound that stag at bay. To go on westward is to resume the weary footsteps of the race from all time that is past. To retrace his steps is impossible; the Rubicon is passed, the ships are destroyed, the bridges are burned. Kingcraft, priestcraft and lawcraft are in control of the earth from pole to pole and the length of the equatorial circle. Western man, there is no more western, eastern, southern or northern land for you. You are a landless, disinherited slave. You can remain in society on condition of your becoming the industrial slave to the same power that forced your footsteps westward, and the name of this

monster from all time is "Private ownership in land." Western man, you have been a great wanderer: you started an Assyrian; you have been a Babylonian, an Egyptian, a Phœnician, a Greek, a Roman, a Norwegian sea king, a Spaniard, a Huguenot, a Puritan, and lastly an American. But your wandering has come to a sudden termination. You wander no more.

The doctrine of slavery by force of the warrior's right over the life or death of his captive has been abolished by society, because it was not profitable, and the system of slavery through private ownership of land, which you have hitherto escaped, has overtaken you. The land gods of America now demand you bound hand and foot, and thrown back at the feet of society, as perfect a bounden thrall as was Cedric of Rotherwood's bound thrall, Gurth, with his iron collar. Now western man, avert that terrible gaze from your eyes, that bear the very stamp of antiquity in them, and please answer me one question: What are you going to do about it? If you get permission to work, you will have to surrender everything you produce to the landlords except only enough to barely keep you in condition to reproduce more wealth by your labor; if you go on the landlords' land you will be arrested as a trespasser; if you walk the streets of the landlords' cities you will be arrested as a vagrant; if you do not work, you will be hounded to death as a tramp; hence the question again: Oh, splendid type of the noblest of the race, what will you do now? Aristotle told one of you in the olden times of Greece that some day, doctrines founded on force would be abolished. Has this awful day of retribution arrived? Will you yourself be the avenging Nemesis? With your towering form and dreadful glance, will you turn like an angered lion and assert your rights with the power we know you so well possess? Do you know your rights in the earth? Did you not take your bible with you? Look into it then and learn that the only parchment deed that ever conveyed the land of this planet to men is contained in the word of God, namely: "The earth has he given to the children of men," and surely at your birth you are vested with this God-given title. There is no other title to land. Your warrant comes direct from nature and sets aside all human laws and title deeds; it is the fact of your having been born.

Of one thing I am certain, and that is that doctrines founded on force such as absolutism in property in the earth has only been waiting for you to reach that rock on that western coast, that Rock of Ages, on which that pirate ship will be wrecked and doomed forever. It must be. It will be. Oh, what a long weary time it has taken for the star of empire to slowly move westward, until it has reached its eternal resting place. And now what will be the outcome of this conflict between our western man and the enervated, effete, corrupted, aye, prostituted, society that he has so well loved to escape from through all the ages of civilization's checkered history? With bated breath and dilated nostrils will reformers scan this field of conflict. The light of the centuries is on; a few more goads, and this lion will give forth a roar that society will dread to hear, and if it does not heed this ominous sound of warning—well, then society will meet its Waterloo.

Now, western man, noble leader of the vanguard of civilization, I wish to propound to you a serious question. As you have come to a stopping place in your westward journey, and therefore have time for deep, profound thinking on these weighty questions, you may have posted yourself. The question is: What has been the cause of the formation of a vast standing and walking army, in these United States, during the last decade, which army is designated as the army of the unemployed, and which numbers, I am told, two million men, including "tramps"? What is a tramp? Is it not a man who went west, in search of primeval forests to subdue, and, finding none, walks back to civilization? Society, the press and pulpit point to him

and say: Lo behold! there is a "tramp." Was he born a tramp? If not, at what time in his life did he sell his birthright to his share of the earth, for a mess of pottage or a "handout?" Are the tramp's hieroglyphics on the fence the handwriting on the wall? Is the tramp's refusal to be a slave the cardinal sign of his "inherent cussedness?" Western man, if you haven't a railroad ticket, and walk back east, will you be a tramp? If so, why are you guilty of this "inherent cussedness?" Why do you not go up in a balloon? Then society, press and pulpit would say you were "out of sight." What right have you to come east? Colorado is overcrowded, with a population of four people to the square mile. Gamblers who speculate on the desire of human beings to live have got up a corner on earth, and have bought it up: What do you think of that? Have they bought you out? If so, how dare you sell that which was not yours? Don't your preacher tell you that the land of the earth is God's equal gift to the children of men? Title vests at birth and lapses at death. If he don't, why don't he? Or does he say: That is an oriental figure of speech, meaning that the earth and the fullness thereof belong to the landlord? If he talks that way, why don't you tell him he lies or stop his salary? If you do, he will resign. Western man and farming man, I think I know what is the trouble with you; you have been outlawed by lawyers. They, dear sir, in modern times out of plastic and willing materials to work upon have builded up this monster statue of clay, brass and gold, secured sanction of the state, with lawyers at the helm of the ship of state, and they call the monster "Absolutism in property in land." Gentlemen, won't you please throw a large pebble at this thing; hit it on the legs—they are only clay—and it will fall. It is rotten false, and fleeting as hell. It was started by a British parliament in 1660; the succeeding parliament ought to have thrown it down, but being landlords all, they were not "built that way." Western men, you will throw this monster down some day, even upon the day that you will see it, and say, lo behold! I see a "cat." Then, as the dying Alexander the Great said: "You will be happy."

CHAS. EDWARD TURNER.

St. Louis, Mo.

GODKIN'S CHARGE ADMITTED.

Advocates of the single tax, beside the satisfaction with their impregnable position which study of the matter always gives, derive a kind hardly less keen from watching the discomfiture of their assailants. This satisfaction is not malicious; it is rather a feeling of gratitude that the certainty of the inestimable good they know to be embodied in the measure they are laboring for is steadily receiving confirmation of the most triumphant kind—that which is furnished by its enemies.

Argyll, Huxley, Herbert Spencer inferentially, Denslow, Horace White—these are a few of the more illustrious volunteers to that Macaulayan contingent who would undertake upon occasion to disprove the law of gravitation. The last recruit of note to this Quixotic band is Mr. E. L. Godkin of the Evening Post, who in his article, entitled "Criminal Politics," in the June issue of the North American Review, thus tilts against the single tax: "That this aversion from the land among the masses should be contemporaneous with the rapid spread of Henry George's theory that poverty is due to the difficulty men have in getting hold of ground to cultivate is surely a very curious social phenomenon. Its success, however, has been mainly in the towns. He has had but few disciples among the agricultural population, and I suspect that even in the towns, if it were possible to analyze the grounds on which his followers have taken up his gospel, it would be found in a cases out of ten that land, in their eyes, simply stood for wealth in general, and that they thought of it as something that yielded ground rent or house rent, rather than as something that grew crops,

This can only mean that, in the opinion of Mr. Godkin, believers in the single tax—their leaders designedly, the rank and file perhaps as dupes—are posing as would-be cultivators of the ground when what they are really after is the rent that city lots will yield, and that perspicacious Mr. Godkin, having detected them in this, has decided as a high public duty to drag them from their communistic creed. This he does in that superior way that men adopt when they are certain of their ground—incidentally, without interrupting the current of his argument—satisfied apparently that simply calling attention to the matter will be so damaging an exposure as to cover with confusion every conscientious Georgian.

It will probably surprise him to be told that the entire single tax army—leaders and followers, horse, foot and artillery—admit at once that in his supposition as to their main purpose he is exactly and incontinent right. It may even rouse his suspicion to be told that they make this admission not grudgingly, but more than willingly—effusively, even. It will surprise him still further, perhaps, to be told that rent is one of the "crops" land everywhere grows; that in the civilized state it is by far the largest crop; that as the land indisputably belongs to the race collectively, so does every product that is not derived from it by human labor—this product, therefore peculiarly; that as it is impossible, however, to assign to each his individual share, the only practicable way by which each may come into his own is to take this particular crop and use it for common purposes; that advocates of the single tax, therefore, are not only "after" rent, but that they are after it particularly and principally; that they have always, openly and everywhere, avowed this, proclaiming it, as it were, from the housetops; and consequently that one of the ridiculous effects of publishing the article called "Criminal Politics" will be to set the world outside of the editorial office of the Evening Post to wondering in what secluded corner the writer of it could have been dozing all these years not to have known a fact so patent.

Literary analysts have ventured the opinion that the chief element in humor is the unexpected. Irreverent street Arabs who frequent the open spaces near the city hall successfully and tangibly illustrate this often when they slyly lay a Belgian paving block upon the sidewalk, and covering it with an abandoned hat go into hiding and await developments. Here, too, it is the unexpected that happens and makes howling fun. Some peripatetic—as if, say, from the Godkin academe—strolls by, abstractedly catches sight of the wrecked head gear and, overmastered for the moment by an access of prospective satisfaction sinfully human, delivers his utmost kick, with such an instantaneous turning of the tables and such vociferous, huge delight on the part of the beholders as sets at rest forever all questions as to the essential nature of the quality called humor.

This case is similar. Here, too, the mental kick has been administered, with painful wisdom instantly resulting to the kicker and cumulative injury to the economic toe. DAVID L. THOMPSON.

Plainfield, N. J.

HOW THE TARIFF REDUCES WAGES.

The more the robber tariff is examined crucially the worse there comes out, at every turn, some new phase of this vile system, proclaiming its iniquity, and every time it ends in showing the worst kind of oppression of those least able to bear it. The New York Times, July 11, in its editorial columns, gives some interesting figures upon the subject of iron beams and ties, and taking its figures as a base, I have endeavored by them to show the effect on wages, a thing seldom if ever done, although the presentation of such object lessons is very instructive to those who give but scant attention to the subject, because they have little time or inclination to read and examine. Two buildings in Chicago, so the Times informs us, used 7,000 tons of iron girders

and ties in their construction. The price by means of the trust and the tariff is forced up to \$69.44 per ton. Belgium has agreed to supply the same quality and quantity of girders and ties at 25 per cent less and pay the duty, which of course is inevitable. The price in Belgium is \$28 per ton, the duty \$28 per ton, making \$56 per ton against \$69.44. The freight per ton would be a very small item. With the mountains of iron and coal in juxtaposition in the United States, no doubt girders could be made cheaper here than in Belgium, especially after the boast of Alabama that she could export iron to Europe. The following table will show what a gigantic robbery is perpetrated, taking the price of \$28 against \$69.44, and allowing 10 per cent for contractor and 5 per cent for architect in each instance:

7,000 tons at \$69.44	\$486,080
10 per cent contractor	48,600
5 per cent architect	20,730
	\$555,410
7,000 tons at \$28	196,000
10 per cent contractor	19,600
5 per cent architect	10,780
	\$226,380
Total cost by means of trusts and duty	\$555,410
Total cost without trusts and without duty	226,380
	\$335,030

The \$335,030 would be very nearly equal to \$1 a day in wages to a thousand men who would have to bear this burden till the tariff was swept away, inasmuch as the increased rent of the buildings would come out of their wages.

Jersey City, N. J. WILLIAM SAUL.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

SIGNS THAT THE PROTECTIVE POLICY HAS BROKEN DOWN—GROWTH OF THE BLAINE RECIPROCITY IDEA—MR. PLUMB'S AMENDMENT AGAINST TRUSTS—MR. CHARLES NORDHOFF'S WITHDRAWAL FROM ACTIVE JOURNALISM.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 4.—What with the eminent republicans in congress and out of it pulling seven ways the political galley does a lot of tossing, but makes little progress. The policy of socialistic protectionism has clearly broken down, but there is much difference of opinion as to which prophet is the true prophet, and all is confusion. Senator Morrill, as if nothing had happened, arose in his place early in the week to correct a "glut of misinformation" which had been thrown out by the "robust free trade partisans," and averred that the "only possible remedy within reach of the American farmer is positive protection against foreign competition," whereas Mr. Blaine had just proclaimed to the world that the pending tariff bill would not sell another bushel of wheat or barrel of pork. As for the tariff increasing prices, Senator Morrill declared that it didn't, and quoted a lot of figures to show how things protected had gone down in price. Senator Plumb, from the good republican state of Kansas, effectually settled this, however, by reading the letter of a merchant in St. Joseph, Mo., and Atchison, Kan., stating that on an invoice of crockery he had paid that day customs duty of \$16.40; that under the pending senate bill the duty would have been \$31.32, and under the McKinley bill \$57.12. The whole tendency of civilization, said Mr. Plumb, was toward the reduction of the price of all products of human labor. To claim that the tariff had been the sole or the main factor in the reduction of the price of manufactured goods was to ignore all the forces of civilization.

In this tariff debate three important points have been established by recognized republican authorities, namely:

That the tariff is a tax, though they say it is a necessary and beneficial one;

That in trade goods are exchanged for goods and not goods for gold;

That the tariff is not the sole or even the main factor in reducing prices.

The declaration of the Atchison Daily Champion, for thirty years a stalwart republican organ and staunch defender of the protective idea, that the west has no

use for protection, and the action of the paper, while holding to republicanism, in coming out for free trade, is looked upon here as indicative of the surprises that are in store through that section in the fall elections. Many of the western republican senators are well aware that the old policy is dead, but they are also aware of the danger of swapping horses in the middle of the stream. This consciousness of the turn of affairs is the explanation of the remark by Senator Manderson of Nebraska that the west believed in "protection, but not in prohibition," and of the reciprocity amendment to the tariff bill presented by Senator Pierce of North Dakota. This clearly is the cause of Senator Plumb's outbreak against the crockery schedule and of his earlier tariff amendment making it mandatory that when a United States circuit or district court is satisfied that a trust or combination has been established, and has artificially advanced the price of anything produced in this country, the importer of a competing article from abroad shall be entitled to receive his article at a duty one-half of that imposed by law. This, viewed from the standpoint of a free trader, is a big step toward free trade. This Plumb amendment, by the way, is a modification of one presented to the trust bill by Senator George of Mississippi, and afterward by Senators Gray of Delaware, Vest of Missouri and Reagan of Texas. The George amendment authorized the president to suspend the tariff for a limited term and permitted the free importation of any article the domestic supply of which was artificially restricted.

Mr. Blaine's free trade reciprocity idea continues to gather ground, owing largely to the disorganized opposition of his enemies in his own party, and it seems now as if he must surely get it into the tariff bill. Most of the senators are fighting for time to bring them a way of getting out of the muddle of difficulties, but Senator Blair, with his resolution to change the rules and limit debate, almost precipitated a disaster upon his political colleagues. The obnoxious resolution was, however, quickly steered off into the committee on rules, there to sleep for the present, at least, and perhaps forever.

In the retirement of Mr. Charles Nordhoff from active journalism Washington loses one of its most famous, reliable and brilliant correspondents. With the enterprise which has always distinguished him, James Gordon Bennett years ago determined to assign an editorial staff officer to duty at Washington, giving him full directing power over the news gathering staff stationed there and authorizing him to write the editorials pertaining to national legislation and politics. For this very responsible field of duty Mr. Nordhoff was selected, and his intimate knowledge of men and affairs from Lincoln's time, together with his clear, direct and forcible style of expression, have enabled him ever since to hold the post with honor and distinction. Mr. Nordhoff has long talked among his intimates of laying aside the pen and enjoying the peaceful sunset of life, and now, after a great many years among the most stirring and eventful scenes, he is about to act upon his long cherished desire, and will retire to Lower California, where he owns some land. Mr. Nordhoff's severance from the Herald is not total, however, Mr. Bennett requesting that he still remain on the staff, to come and go as he pleases, and with that characteristic and princely generosity, the more significant because it is so unusual, Mr. Bennett has placed him on half pay for life. In only one other instance, it is said, has this been done—that of Mr. Frederick Hudson by Mr. Bennett's father.

HENRY GEORGE, JR.

AN ENGLISH ELECTION.

HOW A GREAT AND UNEXPECTED LIBERAL VICTORY WAS ACHIEVED.

BELFAST, July 16.—Since my last dispatch the Barrow election has taken place, and Mr. Cairne, the liberal unionist, has been ingloriously defeated. Three candidates went to the poll—Mr. Cairne himself, Mr. Duncan and Mr. Wainwright,

Mr. Caine has represented Barrow for many years, and since Mr. Gladstone's home rule policy was announced has been an ardent supporter of Hartington-Chamberlain faction. The tory government by its publicans' endowment policy, however, aroused the indignant ire of Mr. Caine, who is and has been for a long period a prominent temperance reformer, and the member for Barrow felt compelled to oppose the government even to the length of driving them from office, if possible. Now, the liberal unionists and the tories having a mutual understanding to the effect that the present government is to be maintained in office as long as Mr. Gladstone lives, it was necessary that Mr. Caine should resign and seek re-election on a different understanding. The honorable member accordingly tendered his resignation and sought re-election. He asked to be returned as an independent liberal, unpledged to home rule, but willing to extend local self-government to Ireland, and as a determined opponent of the present policy of the existing government. Under these circumstances Mr. Caine was unacceptable to either liberals or tories, and accordingly each party started a candidate, the liberals running Mr. Duncan and the tories Mr. Wainwright.

Mr. Gladstone, in common with many liberals throughout the country, was at first inclined to urge the acceptance of Mr. Caine as the liberal candidate rather than that the seat should be allowed to go to the tories, but it being represented to him that the liberals of Barrow could not be reconciled to Mr. Caine, and would, indeed, prefer that a thick and thin opponent should sit for Barrow rather than a man who might blow hot at one moment and cold at another, the right honorable gentleman concluded to support the local party leader and threw in his lot with Mr. Duncan. The result was a complete surprise. The tories were confident that they would run their man in, seeing that the liberal vote was to be divided between Caine and Duncan. Mr. Caine was cocksure that his immense personality would place him at the top of the poll. The home rule liberals thought that if they didn't win by a score or so of votes, they would only lose by as many. As it turned out Mr. Duncan headed the poll by hundreds. The tory man came next and Mr. Caine ran a very bad third. The declaration of the poll filled the unionist party with dismay, and practically determined them to wind up the session without delay, and under a promise to begin a new session in November, instead of February, to seek to prolong the existence of the government another year. The confusion created by this election is difficult to describe. I have before told you how the government's legitimate supporters, the tories, are disintegrated. Let me now say a word as to the effect upon their illegitimate supporters, the liberal unionists, which this election has had. In a word, it has shown that in view of the tremendous issues involved in the next general election—issues far wider and more general than mere home rule—the liberal party has made up its mind to make short work of self-opinionated factists.

To understand the significance of this remark, it must be borne in mind that the composition of the liberal unionist party is peculiar. As to its formation, it contained a few men who were genuinely opposed to home rule. Among these might be counted the marquis of Hartington. It contained others who could not reconcile themselves to certain provisions of Mr. Gladstone's scheme. Among these were Sir George Trevelyan and one or two other men of minor importance. The bulk of the party, however, was made up of men who were ill-disposed toward Mr. Gladstone because the right honorable gentleman had failed to form a correct estimate of their worth and in the composition of his several governments had neglected to provide them with offices equal to their own estimate of their importance. Among these Mr. Chamberlain must be included. I remember well

shortly after the formation of the liberal unionist faction, spending an hour with Mr. Schnadhorst, the organizer of the liberal party, and he went through the list of liberal unionists, and named the office which this man was angry because he didn't get, and the office which the other man was angry because he did not get. Now, among the number thus accounted for was Mr. Caine. That gentleman's ignominious rejection by Barrow has therefore had the very salutary effect of convincing these men that the general election has a similar fate in store for them, and the result is that the whole faction is in a state of confusion worse confounded.

A capital story is told anent Mr. Caine's reasons for retiring from his party, and since it appears to be rather characteristic of the man, it may be at least taken for what it is worth. Since his opposition to the government proposals on the licensing question, Mr. Caine has received many communications from dissentient liberals, not perhaps absolutely approving of his conduct, but emphatically condemning the government for its management of business, and particularly its adhesion to this bill. All these communications Mr. Caine considered it to be his duty to lay before Lord Hartington. Calling one day upon the whip of the party, Lord Wolmer, Mr. Caine asked if his lordship had read the letters and what he thought of them. "I have read the letters," replied Lord Wolmer; "and since you ask me what I think, I must tell you, my dear Caine, that I think bluster is a very good game, and you know how to play it." Mr. Caine was so annoyed that he was led to sever his connection with the party. It has been since asserted that the late member for Barrow has made up his mind to throw in his lot with the Gladstonians. But the government may be truly said to have received a deadly blow in the result of the Barrow election. As I write they have abandoned everything—all their three first-class measures, and even their device for carrying business forward from one session to another. And as a last desperate expedient it has been determined to call parliament together in the third or fourth week in November for an entirely new session. This is a mere trick. Nobody believes that it will succeed. If parliament does meet, then no land purchase bill will carry. Indeed, it is already whispered in certain well informed circles that that scheme will be left over until another parliament. But my own conviction is what it has been all along—viz., that we shall have a general election in the autumn. I earnestly hope not, because the advanced men are by no means ready. I do not mean by that to say that any time before the new parliament must necessarily be checked the new labor party can be ready in any very effective way, but I mean that if we have a year or more before the general election we shall be able to influence matters so much that the new parliament will be sure to contain a rather large group of men prepared to act on what you call single tax lines, and what we call taxation of land values lines.

I suppose many friends on the other side of the water are wondering what is going on in England that we have so many strikes, and so forth. The meaning of it all is that the several missions of Henry George and the propaganda of the various schools of socialists in the country are beginning to bear fruit. An enormous mass of educated discontent has been aroused, and this is associated with much suspicion of the ordinary place-hunting, time-serving politician. Accordingly the "services"—such as the postal service, the metropolitan police service, and to some extent, and indeed to an extent which is much more serious than people imagine, the military service—all are infected with the prevailing discontent. The social question in England is rapidly ripening, and singularly enough great efforts in that direction are being made by men who would be among the very first to suffer. There are quite a number of the younger aristocrats who

seem to be touched with a divine discontent. They appear to be unable to tolerate their own luxurious mode of life and at the same time witness the wretchedness of the poor. Lord Aberdeen, Lord Monkswell, Lord Sandhurst, to whom may be added a man much their senior, the marquis of Ripon, are all more or less absorbed in promoting social reforms. It is as Mr. George says—there is a greater power for good in sympathy than in self interest. So far neither party in the state has manifested any real capacity for dealing with the problem which is being thus increasingly pressed upon the attention of politicians, but if we can only have another year or two before the general election we shall have advanced matters so far that we shall be able to get into the house a number of men in sympathy with us, and by the succeeding general election the question will be ripe for settlement, and the remedy will have commended itself by its merits, as well as the demerits of other so-called remedies.

I am writing at some remove from the center of operations, and therefore I am out of the way of hearing gossip, but there is some talk, I believe, about Mr. Parnell and his marked moderation in recent speeches. I do not think our friends on the other side need be alarmed. Mr. Parnell will play his own game, and that is to get the present government out of office. He is far and away the most capable man for the job, and although the Harcourts may bluster, and the Maleys may philosophize, and other smaller fry may express their opinion; and though the malcontents in the Irish party—those who used to mouth so much about their loyalty to Parnell, and damn everybody who did not join in their lip service—shake their heads and mutter their maledictions, there is no doubt that Mr. Parnell knows far better what he is about than these people can tell him. He has been cursing the plan of campaign lately. It has done more harm than good, and he knew that would be the case. He was not consulted about its inception. Neither was Davitt. Its authors thought they were doing well for the people, but the results of their efforts show that they have not the well balanced capacity for leadership which Parnell and Davitt have, and the people will not swap horses at all events while crossing the stream.

The housing of the poor committee have issued their report and make some drastic recommendation, and the church congress which meets at Hull in the autumn is to be largely occupied with such questions as "The church's attitude toward strikes and wages disputes," "Sanitation," "Socialism," "The ethics of commerce," and so on. These things show that our social problem is ripening fast. The Fabian society being satisfied that the London clubs are saturated with Fabian principles—i. e., socialism—has resolved to venture upon a provincial campaign in the coming winter season.

As an indication of the way the wind blows I may append an extract from a journal, called "Agriculture," on "Depopulated villages." The extract has already been widely published, but it is worth reproducing on your side as showing how we are at last awakening to the urgency of the land question.

We have lately had an opportunity of conversing with an able and intelligent agriculturist, of considerable age but of unimpaired memory, from the border land of Berks and Hants; and the account he gives of the failure of agriculture, and the depopulation of the villages in that part of the country—with which he has been intimately acquainted all his life—is most heartrending.

As an average specimen of the deplorable state of things, we will take a village called Coombe, in Hants. It lies, our informant tells us, in a sheltered valley, at the south foot of the great ridge of hills separating the two counties, and the land is good loam on chalk, well suited for both corn and sheep. Formerly there were three farms, but now all are worked together.

The parish, exclusive of a hamlet, is somewhat under 2,000 acres in extent, of which about 150 is wood, and perhaps another 100 downland, leaving say 1,750, which should be under plough in the three farms. In good times these three farms carried 50 horses and 6 oxen, with a staff of 18 of 19 head and

under carters, and the same number of boys; 1,800 ewes and tegs, with 7 head and under shepherds, and employed throughout the year about 24 day laborers, beside extra men for haymaking, turnip hoeing, harvest and lambing.

There were also in constant work a blacksmith and his man, and a wheelwright and his man—altogether, a busy and flourishing little agricultural community; the members of which, our informant said, rejoiced in comfortable homes, and a fattening pig was a pretty constant companion belonging to each cottager throughout the winter half of the year.

What, however, is the present state of this once prosperous village? Only twelve horses are now kept, no ewes, and only two hundred tegs; while the men and their families are gone, and numbers of the cottages (our informant put it as high as two-thirds) have either been taken down, or have fallen for want of repairs.

And let us repeat, this is not an isolated case, but a specimen (and by no means one of the worst) of the state of a formerly good corn and sheep district. The tenants are ruined and gone, the artisans and laborers have been driven into the towns and the land is either wholly abandoned or only partially worked in a half-hearted and despairing manner by the (too often) ruined owners.

Have we no national economists, or have they all been swallowed up in party strife? Have we not even one statesman left who can put his country above his party before it be too late—before agriculture and all the rural trades dependent upon it have been utterly swept off the face of this country? Coombe affords a sad instance of what has befallen so many once flourishing districts of rural England.

The same kind of thing is going on in Ireland. Laborers are leaving the country in shoals, and in the counties of Down and Antrim I never remember to have seen so many sheep. HAROLD RYLETT.

PERSONAL.

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper for August 2 has an article on the New York ballot law by Mr. Edward A. Curley of Brooklyn. He fears that the paster will destroy the secrecy of the ballot.

William Gornall of Taunton, Mass., has written a letter to the mayor of that city (which appears in the Taunton News), giving his opinion on the question of sewerage, which has become an important one there lately. The Taunton people want an improved sewerage system, and the question has arisen as to how it shall be paid for. Mr. Gornall points out that it should be paid for by the land owners who will be benefited; and he recommends the mayor to familiarize himself with the reasons arrived at by the London county council for assessing the ground owners in the immediate vicinity of the sewerage improvement. Mr. Gornall also suggests to the mayor that he write to the mayor of Chicago and learn the plan adopted there. Mr. Gornall's personal opinion is that as the effect of improved sewerage will be to increase the value of the land benefited by it, that the owners of that land should pay for the improvement.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has lost and, Maynard, Iowa, has gained, a thorough single tax man and active worker in Mr. C. H. Vorhes. Mr. Vorhes has entered the banking business, being president of the bank of Maynard. He writes: "We have out here in this country a few good men—full single taxers—a good live, free trade club, and are doing the necessary work to change the record of the state, and shall do it, and that soon. This western pot is boiling and bubbling politically."

A dispatch to the New York Times says that the nomination for congress of the Hon. M. D. Harter has caused the republicans of the Mansfield district, Ohio, considerable annoyance. They are "trying to induce the Hon. Columbus Delano, formerly secretary of the interior under President Grant, and more recently the avowed protector of the sheep industry, both white and black, to accept the nomination and measure conclusions with Mr. Harter. It is hardly probable that the ex-secretary will enter into so hopeless a contest."

Charles P. Kelly of New York city has a letter in the Journal of the Knights of Labor, in which he takes the position that rent and interest are natural laws. It is an answer to a letter from George C. Ward of Kansas City declaiming against usury.

YES, "LET 'ER RIP!"

Pittsburg Kansan.

M. K. n. y.—All free trade is a curse. Blame—Some free trade is not a curse, but may be a blessing. As, for example, free trade with the Latin republics of America. Mek.—Inconsequential fool, the garment of protection goes to the ragman the moment it is ripped. R.—Then let 'er rip.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Rochester, N. Y.—The "single tax" question seems to me to be the most important political issue of the age. That the land belongs to the people as their birth right is so clearly set forth in "Progress and Poverty" that it must appear a self-evident fact to the honest thinker. That private ownership of land deprives the people of their just rights is equally apparent, yet when the remedy is proposed which takes from the land holder its speculative value and gives to the people the true rental value, many honest minds rebel because they see in the remedy an injustice to those who have purchased lands and given in return wealth honestly earned.

True that the original title of land rests upon robbery and bloodshed, yet such titles have been accepted by the people, bargains have been entered into and compacts made, and in justice to all they should be respected. This we must not lose sight of, and in applying a remedy to the evil system it should be done with justice to all. When that is done, I believe that many thousands will join the ranks who now hold aloof. That there is a remedy that will be just to all I believe, and one founded upon an economic law.

Let us but consider the duration of wealth, for the term excludes land, and we see that in a short time it all passes away. Even the most stately mansion becomes a ruin unless additional wealth is expended upon it to keep it in repair.

Here, I believe, is the remedy: To reimburse the land holder would be to "rob Peter to pay Paul." To confiscate the rental value at once would be an injustice, but to set apart a time in the future for the enacting of the law, such a time as will represent the average duration of wealth, when the rent will all be taken by a single tax, would be justice to all.

Such a plan would allow of the gradual shrinkage of speculative values and in no way interfere with our general prosperity.

CHARLES D. SANBORN.

The resistance to such a programme would be as bitter and persistent as to the plan we are urging. The question raised by our correspondent has been fully discussed in "Progress and Poverty," and there is no necessity for repeating here the argument against the recognition of the so-called right of the landlord. The existing law does not take cognizance of the money he has paid, or even of the improvements he has made, if it turns out that there is a flaw in his title, whereas the single tax men, even if they could accomplish their ends at a single bound, would recognize the right of the "owner" to improvements.

Furthermore, the question is not a practical one. Our policy of arriving at the single tax by the successive removal of all other taxes makes the process necessarily more gradual than it would be under the plan recommended by our correspondent, and it involves no sacrifice of principle. No one imagines that the single tax will come all at once. The work of education will require years of agitation, the gradual removal of taxes on the products of labor will increase the tax on land values from year to year, and when all other taxes have once been abolished the growth of public wants will bring about the single tax "unlimited" without any quarrel with our "limited" friends. Mr. Sanborn need not fear undue haste. Such changes do not come through peaceable processes until the community is ready for them and all concerned have had ample time for preparation.

* * *

The millennium is near. A street railway corporation in Wilmington, Del., has voluntarily increased the wages of its employees seven and a half per cent.

* * *

The coal barons gravely inform the public that the price of coal will not be increased on account of the threatened strike for eight hours by the coal miners. The weather is warm now. But wait until the chill winds from the frozen north pay us their annual visit; then watch the price of coal rise, whether the miners win or lose. Great jokers, those barons.

* * *

The St. Louis Freedom calls our dearly loved tariff bill, which is to do so much for the great American workingman, "the McKinley Freak." Let the editor of that heretical paper be dragged down to the deepest, darkest donjon dungeon. "Freak," forsooth!

* * *

The city council of Hamilton, Ontario, has passed a resolution exempting the

machinery and plant of factories from municipal taxation. The Hamilton Times, while it approves the resolution, says it is in doubt as to whether it is legal, but hopes that the legislature will amend the assessment law so as to make it so. "Meanwhile," it says,

there is a chance, under the amendment of 1890, to reduce taxation upon merchants' goods to a nominal amount. We would like to see Hamilton the first city to take advantage of this provision. It would give a boom to our mercantile interests. Nobody regards it as a hardship that household furniture is exempt from taxation. Were all the goods in the merchants' stores untaxed, it would be the better for trade, and soon everybody would wonder that the evil system of taxing goods was permitted to last so long. The workingmen ought to be to the fore in agitating for the removal of the personal property taxes.

* * *

Mr. H. C. Howard, 127 Evering road, London, N. England, was until recently a resident of Toronto, Canada, where he became a single tax man. While on his way back to London the thought struck him that he would find out the sentiments of his fellow passengers on present social conditions; so he drafted the following declaration, to which he obtained twenty-six signatures, and forwarded it to this office:

The condition of things in the city of Toronto and in the other cities and towns of Canada is not much better than in London or anywhere else, and the same cause has produced the same results.

The unearned increment in land values, the result of the presence and increase of population, has made a few rich and is the golden prize for which a horde of "real estate" dealers and speculators are contending. The effect upon the average worker is to deprive him of almost all benefit from association with his kind and to leave to him no better result of his labor than such as would reward his toil upon the most isolated and barren soil. This must always be the result of permitting private ownership of land, and nothing short of the effectual recognition of the claim of the community can secure to each individual his natural rights.

What the most important of these natural rights are philosophy has made clear, and Christianity sets up a higher standard even than duty; but our social system continues to disregard both abstract justice and practical brotherhood.

Subscribed to by the following passengers on board the steamship Vancouver, Quebec to Liverpool, 3d to 12th July, 1890.

All work of this kind has a good effect, in that it turns men's thoughts to the problem which is beginning to attract attention everywhere.

* * *

The Chicago Times says that the assessed value of property in West Town has been increased this year from \$36,000,000 to \$40,000,000. The increase comes largely on lands owned by speculators. West Town is the district of which Mr. Cantwell—of whom THE STANDARD has told so much lately—is the assessor. To give an idea of where the extra \$4,000,000 has come from, we cite two instances: One tract, which was assessed last year at \$900, has been assessed this year at \$5,000; and even that figure, says the Times, represents only one-tenth of its actual value. Another tract, heretofore assessed at \$600, is rated this year at \$10,680; but whether this represents the same percentage of actual value as the first mentioned tract, the Times does not say. Though Mr. Cantwell has given the Chicago people but a small measure of justice, they are to be congratulated that they have an assessor brave enough to give them as much as they have got in this instance.

* * *

But it seems it is not in West Town only that the good work is being done, for we read an item from the Chicago Herald, which says that Assessor Maher of Hyde Park is working in the same direction as Assessor Cantwell. He also has raised the assessment in his district \$1,000,000. He said he was led to do it because of the complaints of owners of improved property, that they were being assessed at a much higher percentage of the values of their holdings than were the owners of unimproved property. The assessor has increased the rate on that class from 40 to 300 per cent.

* * *

We are progressing, even in this city. Last Friday (according to the New York Times) it was decided by the board of

street opening and improvement that half of the \$1,000,000 needed for the proposed park at Hudson and Leroy streets, which is the property of Trinity church now, should be raised by assessing the surrounding property owners. Alderman Walker objected to this, but his protest was of no avail. The area of assessment is that property lying between West Eleventh, Macdougall and Spring streets and the Hudson river. The assessment will be about \$20 per lot. The other \$500,000 will be paid by the city, the money being raised on revenue bonds.

* * *

Last Friday the ice trust again lifted the price of ice. More poor people will suffer; but that makes no difference.

* * *

Thomas E. Quinn of Parkersburg, Va.,—an active single tax man—has received the democratic nomination for the West Virginia house of delegates. In his speech accepting the nomination he said:

It is known to many of you that as a student of political economy I have, individually speaking, arrived at conclusions as to the principles of taxation such as may be considered by many to be extreme—views that the democratic party has never yet given assent to. But, in the field of practical politics, I assure you, and through you the democracy of the county of Wood, that I am as ever a democrat and stand as the uncompromising champion of the principles of the democratic party as interpreted by Jefferson, Jackson and our own illustrious Grover Cleveland.

The Parkersburg Sentinel congratulates the democratic party on the wisdom of its choice. Mr. Quinn, it says, "is a representative workingman who appreciates the condition and necessities of the working people, and a bright and entertaining speaker." The Parkersburg Journal, however, is filled with gall and wormwood because of Mr. Quinn's nomination, and eases its disgruntledness thus:

The democratic party has either accepted the single tax idiosyncrasy or the Honorable Thomas Quinn has abandoned it. Which?

Last Thursday evening the Jefferson democratic club of this city unanimously declared the following principle: "Put none but democrats on guard." Then their fellow democrats went down to the court house and nominated a single tax crank for the legislature. Consistency, etc.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Quinn will go on with his campaign, despite the unkind words of the Journal; and when he has been elected to the house of delegates—which, of course, he will be—that he will look kindly on the erring editor, and, perchance, initiate him into the mysteries of single tax "crankism."

* * *

The Boston Journal quotes a lady inspector of charities as saying:

A sad surprise is the widespread illiteracy of the factory workers. It is safe to say that a majority of them, although born in this country and speaking English well, are unable to read or write. It is a simple thing for an unscrupulous employer to do as he pleases with these people.

This degradation of American artisans in factories, says the Boston Globe, has grown up under the system of high protection; which, though tersely and cruelly stated, is true.

* * *

Why is it so difficult for protection papers to tell the truth? The Commercial Gazette of Pittsburg remarked the other day that "Jefferson was a protectionist and Cleveland is a free trader." Now, everybody knows that that statement is not true. The only authority the Commercial Gazette can have for it is C. A. Dana, who, like the protectionist editors, handles facts very carelessly. The truth is that Jefferson was a free trader, and Cleveland is, for the present at least, only a tariff reformer.

* * *

Our readers remember the case of the man Howland which was printed in THE STANDARD a few weeks ago—he that claimed Westport Harbor, the beach shore, the seaweed and the other appurtenances thereunto belonging. It will be remembered that he put padlocks on all the bath houses, and on some of the private houses as well. Well, the people finally concluded to make a protest. They did so by removing the padlocks from the various doors, and continued to do so as fast as he put them on, and they used the bath houses as of yore. Suddenly How-

land stopped the padlock racket. This created a feeling of distrust among the cottagers; they knew Howland was not yet defeated, and they waited for the coup d'etat which they knew he was likely to spring on them at any moment. Finally it came. One dark night last week he or his minions painted the interior of the bath houses all over with tar and rendered them useless. There is great indignation, and it is threatened to do to Howland—when they find him—what he did to the bath houses, excepting that in his case the cottagers will make an exterior application.

* * *

We fail to understand this case. Howland bought and paid for the Westport Harbor property over which there has been so much quarreling. Why don't he assert his rights, and invoke the law to drive off the people who are trespassing on his domain? It has come to a pretty pass when a man cannot control what belongs to him. Is it possible that there is a public opinion in Westport Harbor that has more weight with the law keepers than Howland's title deeds? We would like to see the matter settled and the owner of Westport Harbor come into his own; for we think that such settlement would result in adding to the number of single tax advocates in that vicinity.

* * *

E. W. Krackowizer of Milwaukee, Wis., sends us a "galley" proof of an advertisement ordered inserted in a Milwaukee paper by the principal clothing house of that city. There is a picture of a store. Uncle Sam is standing behind the counter to which Columbia is escorting Miss Brazil, an intending purchaser of Uncle Sam's wares. The American eagle is perched on a box, dressed as was Mr. McGinty. As Miss Brazil reaches out her hand to greet Uncle Sam the eagle stretches his wings and, evidently, is about to scream his approval. Then the advertisement continues:

FREE TRADE MEANS FAIR SWAP.

This picture tells its own story and tells it well. Moreover, it comes just at this time when the McKinley monopolists are being assured by the "plumed knight" that though the "laboring man" needs "protection" as bad as ever, the "farmer" needs "reciprocity" even worse.

Now if this cry of "reciprocity" means anything at all, it means Pan-American free trade, as free as it is in and between these United States—reverting to the Yankee's unalienable right to swap what, when, where and how he wants to.

Observe the bird; he has caught onto the idea. Go thou and do likewise. Be free in all things!

We have cut down the dozen price of our imported Balbriggan fancy striped and clocked hose from

PROTECTION TO FREE TRADE
\$3 and \$6 \$1.75 and \$3.75
prices, and in return expect nothing more from you than

RECIPROCITY.

STEIN, WAMBOLD & CO.,
Milwaukee's Principal Clothiers and
Furnishers.
Library Block,
Grand ave., cor. Fourth st. One block from
Union Depot.

* * *

The attempt of the republicans to cause a "rising" among the colored brethren in favor of the Lodge force bill don't seem to work. We can understand why the attempt has failed in the south, for the republican papers tell us that the slave drivers, klu klux klan and other suppressors of negro opinion in Dixie's land are always on hand with whips, knives, pistols and other persuaders to prevent meetings in favor of the measure being held. But how about Boston, Mass., the home of the author of the bill? Surely no intimidation is used there. And yet when the republican state committee summoned the colored brethren to Faneuil hall to give expression of approval to the measure that would lift the yoke which the northern republicans say bears down so heavily on the necks of their brothers of the south, not more than three hundred or so responded—in other words, the meeting was a failure. Sad, very sad.

IT IS "SIMPLY INTENSE."

Hartford, Conn.

The interest manifested by the protected workingmen in the dispute about the seal fisheries is simply intense. The thought that there may be no sealskin coats for them to purchase next winter has stirred them up to a high degree.

GEORGE IN AUSTRALIA.

HIS FAREWELLS IN MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE.

TWO ADDRESSES AND ONE INTERVIEW—KIND WORDS TO THE PARTING GUEST.

Mr. George delivered his farewell address in Melbourne in the Town hall on the night of June 6, when he spoke on "Taxation, protection and confiscation." In the course of his address he said:

In a recent number of London Punch was a cartoon, "Mr. Punch saluting Stanley Africanus," and in that picture was shown the glory of England and the extension of its commerce and influence. On the opposite page was a picture of London life, illustrating the struggle for life in that great city. It was no allegory, but a sketch from life—three men running after a cab for the job of carrying one small portmanteau. Such a scene could be seen any day in London—men who would run miles after a cab in order to earn 6d. That was the heart of the labor problem. How were these men to be helped by protection? Of what use to them was trades unionism? So it was with all these restrictive laws and combinations. Trades unionism was effective to this extent, that it could for a short time reduce competition within small limits, but it could do nothing to relieve competition among the poorest classes of all. The only way to remedy this was for all men of intellect to address themselves to the subject. It was among thoughtful people that the remedy was to be found. Politicians themselves were never leaders. Protection would do nothing for unskilled labor—no, nor for skilled labor. Protection was said to encourage industry, and this by raising the price of certain goods and giving to those making and selling those goods larger profits than they could otherwise get. But that was not the only way in which a particular class of industry might be encouraged. There was also the bounty system, in which there was at any rate this advantage, that it was known exactly what it cost and who received the bounty. But what bounty could benefit bricklayers? There was a large section of workers in every community who could not possibly benefit by protective duties. Protection could not encourage producers, the surplus of whose produce must be exported. (Applause.)

Under the bounty system the attempt could be made to benefit everybody, but what would be the inevitable result? Tax everybody to give a subsidy to everybody! Would not the result be that everybody, instead of being encouraged, must be discouraged? (Applause.) The only ones to be benefited would be those who got more than their fair share; but even as to them, how could any such system keep up profits or increase wages? Raise the profits of any industry above the ordinary level, and the law of competition immediately came in, and in time, in spite of subsidy or protection, prices resumed their former level. The only way this could be averted was by the creation of a monopoly within while there was protection from without. Even if a direct grant were given to raise wages, it would only induce more laborers to come in, and wages would inevitably go back to the normal level. All such attempts to solve the social problem were as attempts to bale the sea. What, then, was to be done? He and those who thought with him turned to the question of taxation, the most important function of government. They would increase the number of portmanteaux and decrease the number of cab runners, and that, not by restrictions, but by giving men greater freedom—freedom to take and keep for themselves all that their energy and their industry produced, by doing away with the restrictions and monopolies which now prevented labor from availing itself of the natural means and opportunities to labor.

Mr. George was interviewed by a reporter of the Adelaide Register, June 9. The report says:

Mr. George looks exceedingly well, and expresses himself as thoroughly satisfied with his colonial tour and assured that the doctrine which he has so vigorously advocated will make good headway and be ultimately realized.

"I have been in the colonies about three months now," began Mr. George, "having landed in Sydney on March 6 last. I have been pretty well all through New South Wales, the principal towns of Victoria, South Australia and Queensland as far north as Rockhampton. I have had pressing invitations to visit New Zealand and Tasmania, but the season is growing so late, and I have been so much longer than I arranged to stay, that I will not be able to visit these colonies. My impressions of Australia are good. Physically the country is a better one than is generally appreciated abroad, there being a larger extent of fertile land and greater facilities for conserving water. The agricultural country now settled is merely being scratched. I think the colonies generally, and especially South Australia, at least the southern parts of it, peculiarly adapted for fruit and wine. Some day they will be famous throughout the world for these products, and from the situation of the colonies in the temperate zone of the southern hem-

isphere will, when ocean transportation shall have improved, as in a few years it must improve, be able to send large quantities of fruits, etc., into northern markets when those markets are bare of northern products. As to the people of Australia, well, they are just about what I expected to find. I think the transplantation and rubbing of men together always brightens them. Of the things peculiar to your institutions I find much to admire and some things I do not like. I admire your government ownership and management of railways and telegraphs, your simple mode of land transfer and your Australian ballot, which we are now adopting in the United States. I admire the manner in which public parks and reserves are laid out in towns, of which Adelaide, unquestionably the handsomest city in Australia, is a notable example. Your public libraries and museums are good, and I admire many of the methods you have in public administration, and especially this—which is perhaps to a stranger the very best index—that the popular sentiment seems to place perfect faith in the purity of the administration.

"The chief fault to my mind in the Australian institutions is their centralization—the want of local self-government—the habit of looking to the government to do things that ought to be done by the people of each locality, and for subsidies for all imaginable things. One of the little things in which I see the effect of this is the backwardness in planting trees in most of the towns and villages. People generally speaking do not plant trees to improve their own lots, but wait for the government to furnish trees or give subsidies. The colony of South Australia has led the way in forestry and forest conservation, and it is much to her honor; but it does seem to me that the people individually or as localities do not do as much in this direction as they ought to. Your eucalypts, and especially some species, have a fine effect, but it is too monotonous, and you have practically the choice of the very best in the world, for pretty well everything will, it seems, grow in Australia. Another bad effect of the centralized system of government seems to be in the character of your politics and the choice of your members of parliament. The effect seems to be to make them agents for getting local favors from the central government. Of course the whole system of raising money by general taxation, or, what is really worse to localities, by land sales and by land revenues, and then doing it out for local purposes, is to drain the extremities for the sake of the center. But what peculiarly impresses me in the character of your people and your institutions is the readiness by which methods can be changed and new ideas carried into effect.

"To my mind you have one enormous advantage above other people. You have never had a war, with all the far-reaching evils that all wars, even in the best and noblest causes, entail, and by your situation you are far removed from any danger of war. I think it is well in every free country that its citizens should be familiar with the use of arms, but I dislike to see expensive works of defense, and especially the spending of money in the nuclei of navies in which all Australian colonies to some extent indulge. You have no more use for these footy little warships than had the Hawaiian islands for the navy which King Kalakaua a while ago set up. He sent his navy to the Samoan islands, and all hands from the captain to the cook got on a big drunk and kept on it until they drank up everything movable belonging to the navy, which ended the business. If your navy would do the same thing it would be a public gain."

"And, Mr. George, is your doctrine making satisfactory progress?"

"As to the land question I have," said Mr. George, "very great hopes. In all the colonies the idea that the land is justly the heritage of all the people, has made large advances and taken shape in legislation. South Australia is leading the other colonies, and I look for still further advances in a short time. From my point of view I do not like the plan of leasing out land as well as the plan of giving fee simple titles and taking economic rent in taxation. Your tax on unimproved land values is to me the beginning of the true system. Your local government bill, which I am told is certain to pass both houses this session of parliament, gives to local bodies the power of raising their revenues by assessing unimproved land values, and will be another great step in that direction. A similar bill is likely to be adopted in New South Wales."

"Is it a fact, Mr. George, that at your last meeting in Sydney you advocated that the present unimproved capital value of land should be exempted from all future taxation?"

"No," replied Mr. George in an emphatic manner, "it is not a fact, any more than it is a fact that I made such a statement in South Australia, as has been stated in the other colonies. I endeavored to explain in Sydney what is the cause of this misapprehension. It arises from a misunderstanding of the term 'unearned increment.' The unearned increment of land is not capital value, but an annual value, and this, or the expectation of this capitalized, gives the selling value. We do not propose to call upon any man to pay to the state on what he has received in the past, and therefore we do not propose to take past unearned increment. We propose

to assess what he has to pay upon the capital value existing whenever the tax law comes into effect, and therefore only to take from the unearned increment of the future. That has been my position from the first, as any one may see who chooses to read my 'Progress and Poverty.' What I have always said is that we can never adjust the wrongs of the past, and can only act in the present for the future; and therefore, as I have sometimes put it, I will let bygones be bygones. I have always opposed the proposition made by John Stuart Mill, that all land should be assessed, and that only the surplus above existing land values should be taxed in the future."

"As well as I can judge," said Mr. George, referring to free trade and protection in Australia, "the idea of protection is now weakening in these colonies. I have attacked it wherever I have spoken, and seemingly with the sympathy of the larger portion of my audiences. And I think our single tax men—who are certainly a growing force—have everywhere come to the conclusion that protection is inconsistent with the single tax. But, as I told them in Sydney, the mere defensive fight for a revenue tariff cannot long hold its own in countries like these. The free trade struggle must be an aggressive one, and must go to the length of the complete abolition of all duties (and necessarily to the raising of revenue from land values) in order to carry out the principles of real free trade and to be successful."

"And now, Mr. George, your opinion as to the general character and intelligence of Australians?"

"Well, I think the general standard of intelligence, like the general standard of comfort, is high; and, as well as I can judge, your school systems are very good, except that the systems are perhaps too much centralized, and in some of the colonies, South Australia for instance, you exact school fees. From the situation of Australia there is, of course, the disadvantage of isolation, and the social condition that would enable the people to travel and see the rest of the world would be of enormous benefit. I think, as is only natural, that the development of the national character tends to the American type, and I think Australians are likely to be renowned for their inventiveness. A closer intercourse between the United States and Australia would be of great benefit to both, and this will shortly come about with the breaking down of the tariff wall that hems in the energies of the American people, which cannot be long delayed. All my advice from the United States show that the popular movement toward free trade, setting in strong when I left, is coming on with accelerated vigor."

"Are you pleased with your treatment in Australia, Mr. George, from the people and the press?"

"Yes; my treatment everywhere has been warm and kind, from my own friends warm and kind to the last degree, and even from those who are bitterly opposed to my views it has been generally fair and courteous. This is true of the press as well as the people of Australia. Taken as a whole, I consider the Australian press has a very high standard both for fairness and ability. I am exceedingly pleased with my visit to Australia, and shall always feel warmly toward the great nation that is to play such an important part in the next century, and whose foundations you pioneers are now laying here. And I trust it is not a dream that our children at least may see the day when there shall exist, not merely an Australian federation, but that the different branches of the same people may be united in one great league, that shall make a citizen of one country feel himself also the citizen of the others, and secure justice, and establish liberty, and promote prosperity over the whole earth."

Tuesday evening, June 10, Mr. George spoke for the last time to an Australasian audience at Victoria hall, Adelaide, taking for his subject "The World-wide Struggle." The hall was crowded, and at the close of his address a vote of thanks was tendered to him amid tremendous enthusiasm. The two Adelaide papers were exceedingly complimentary to Mr. George. After congratulating him on his address, the Register had this to say regarding the idea for which Mr. George stands:

There is no reason to expect that the history of the reform with which his name is identified will differ greatly from the history of other reforms. At the outset they attract some followers with more zeal than knowledge, whose actions and utterances are not free from fanaticism. But every movement of the kind settles down into a steady-going respectability quite soon enough, and rids itself of the superabundant exuberance and eccentricities of early youth. The one question which every well wisher of humanity will ask is whether the reform is good in itself, and is likely to advance the best interests of men. Having settled this point, patient, conscientious and persistent study of the question will end in the discovery of a way by which it can be brought into actual operation. It is easy enough to find fault with individual expressions; it is easy enough to assail a public teacher and his teachings with the shafts of ridicule—any fool can do that. But this will no more kill a great economic and social truth than the darkening of

a room by closing the windows with shutters will quench the light of the sun.

Of course, as Mr. George humorously said at the banquet on Monday night, there are many persons who do not know him or the doctrines he teaches. It is impossible, however, to move about among different sections of the community without being struck with the amount of inquiry to which his teaching has given rise. And this effect is not a mere evanescent fashion, which, like the last popular novel, is in everybody's mouth to-day, and will be sold as waste paper next season. Every philanthropist is deeply interested in the world-wide struggle, and none can afford to pass lightly over a doctrine which goes to the root of the matter, and holds out the hope of an effective settlement of the difficulty. * * *

One practical purpose was served by the lecture last night. The proposal to abolish all taxes except the tax on land was met, as it frequently is, by the objection that it would be unfair to the capitalist who has invested his money in land. The fact that this objection is so constantly raised gives warrant for Mr. George's rejoinder that it is the only objection that can be urged against it. It is something gained to have this conceded, because, as the reform will not be accomplished in a day, it is obvious that it is the business of the capitalist and of others to show how it can be accomplished without unfairness to any one. This is the local aspect of the question to which we have frequently directed attention in these columns. Mr. George is a propagandist; his object is to point out the evils that exist and the effective remedy for them. How that remedy is to be applied is a question which each country must settle for itself. No man who takes the trouble to think for himself will accept the whole of the teachings of Mr. George, or of any one else.

For our own part we are not so sanguine as many are as to the extent of the moral and social improvement that will immediately follow upon the adoption of the economic reforms he advocates. This much, however, is certain, that under the present conditions of society the life of most men who have a keen sense of duty is a struggle for existence varied by necessarily imperfect attempts to help their fellows. It will undoubtedly be a great gain to remove out of the way one of the most prolific causes of that ceaseless struggle for rights which goes on. It will rest with those who are teachers of higher matter to see that the idea of duty which will then have freer scope is called into active exercise. Whatever difference of opinion there may be as to Mr. George's teachings or his methods, there can be no doubt as to his intense earnestness and the stimulating effect of his utterances.

The Adelaide Advertiser, while confessing itself an opponent, said this about the man and his theories:

While his economic theories are open to dispute, everybody must acknowledge the extraordinary ability with which they have been advocated. His writings have dealt with social problems from new and striking points of view, and though opinions differ as to the adequacy and justice of the solutions he proposes the genius displayed in his works has been universally recognized. Mr. George merits attention and respect, not merely because of the extreme ingenuity shown in the working out of his theories, but on account of the sincerity and enthusiasm with which he has propounded his remedy for the evils of society. A subtle thinker, he is imbued with the true spirit of the practical reformer. Even if his panacea be unacceptable or impracticable, and for our own part we have never disguised our opposition to his doctrines, credit cannot fairly be denied to him for a splendid endeavor to grapple with great questions.

His work has been animated by the noble idea of elevating the condition of the suffering masses in every part of the world. Satisfied in his own mind that poverty is due to simple causes easily removed, he has striven to liberate the workers with a persistency and singleness of aim which, whatever the errors of his philosophy, entitle him to their lasting gratitude. On the eve of Mr. George's departure from Australia this acknowledgment seems only fitting. His lectures cannot have failed to stimulate the interest in the social and economic questions to which the single tax professes to supply an answer. The more these questions are studied in every possible light the better it must be, for upon their peaceful and satisfactory solution the future of civilized society may depend. Intelligence works revolutions no less than force. But the victories of mind are bloodless and enduring, and as great changes seem to be inevitable society is deeply concerned in insuring that they shall come without violence and by a natural and orderly development.

A DEMOCRATIC MISTAKE.

Boston Globe.

The Ohio democrats made a blunder when they gerrymandered McKinley into a democratic district. Probably no man in congress, on either side, has done the democratic cause more real service.

TRUE.

Middleton, Ohio, Signal.

Protection may protect monopolies, but it don't protect the laborer of the land.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: I find the following in the Boulder, Mon., Age:

The necessity of government and the value of land are both the result of population, and the revenue of one should pay the cost of the other.

There is more solid single tax sense in the above sentence than I have seen in so small space in many a day, and I want to congratulate THE STANDARD readers and our friends generally, in that the cause has so able an advocate as the Age in the great state of Montana.

Population does make government necessary and does give value—all the value it has—to land; and can any but those blinded by a selfish interest in land monopoly fail to see the justice, and expediency, and economy of paying the cost of this government made necessary by population with this value that population creates? Let our Montana friends apply this principle to the great railroad land grants in their state and see how speedily these railroad lands—about one-quarter of their whole territory—would be released to the uses of labor.

New York. WM. SPALDING.

WHEN THERE WERE NO POOR.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: The eminent Swedish divine, professor, and member of the Swedish parliament, Paul Waldenström, who last year made a tour through the United States and was made a D.D., by Yale college, is writing and publishing a work about the United States and his travels through it. Speaking of the first Swedish colonists and colonies (the first Swedes arrived in Delaware, 1638), he reports their priests as writing home to Sweden, saying: "There are no poor in this country, but each and every one supports himself. The soil is rich and fertile, so that none who will work need want."

Quite a single tax argument. At one time, 1696, they needed new church buildings. At this time they (the Swedish colonists) numbered in New England 1,200 souls. They had received three priests from Sweden. These priests wrote home to Sweden: "We need 400 pounds sterling (\$72,000), but it won't be difficult to raise among the Swedes."

Wonder how easy it would be to raise \$72,000 among 1,200 Swedes now here.

Jamestown, N. Y. F. G. ANDERSON.

THE INCOME OF FARMS.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: In his article, "A Single Tax Upon Land," in the July Century, Mr. Atkinson says:

A very large proportion of our farm lands especially yield no rent, i. e., no income, over an average return on labor and capital.

Would it not have been more correct to have said: "A very small proportion of our farm lands yield an average return on labor and capital?"

According to the tenth census the average investment of the American farmer was \$3,000. The value of the average product per farm in 1879 was \$551. From this sum all cost of production had to be paid. This cost would be something like the following:

Providing and feeding team (two horses)	\$124
Building and keeping up fences	17
Building and keeping farm buildings	17
Furnishing and repairing all tools	10
Furnishing seed	10
Taxes	37
Insurance	5
Labor	300
Total	\$520

This leaves \$31, which might be called interest on the investment of \$3,000—one per cent!

I think the only criticism upon the above figures which will hold is that the estimates expressed in them are too low.

In regard to the matter of labor, I think the \$551 represents the constant work of at least two able-bodied men. There are six people in the farmer's family. Four are probably workers. The amount given for labor is only \$50 more than a farm laborer is paid for a full year's work in Ohio.

Of course it is not necessary to say anything in regard to the real meaning of the depressed condition of agriculture which Mr. Atkinson suggests in the words above quoted from him.

It would not be impertinent to remark, however, that it has not been so very long since he was telling us that the farmers were "getting rich."

STEPHEN R. CRUMBAKER.

Duncan's Falls, Ohio.

AN OBJECT LESSON IN THE SLATE REGION.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: On a visit to the famous Chapman slate quarry I learned a few facts concerning them

which may be of interest to you and the readers of THE STANDARD, as furnishing an example of the necessity for the adoption of the single tax. The quarries are situated some ten miles from Bethlehem, near the Blue Ridge mountains, in a country literally covered with slate, so numerous are its outcroppings on every hillside. The business is entirely in the hands of a few companies, the members of which are more or less interested in the other as well as their own; consequently they are conducted much like a trust. One little railroad, which has for years rejoiced in the sobriquet of "The Huckleberry," furnishes the means of transportation of the slate to the nearest railroad center. The principal owner of the Chapman quarry, as well as the railroad, is Mr. Chapman, an aged resident of Bethlehem, who came to this country from England and engaged, near where he now has his quarry, as a quarryman. I know not the history of his rise and progress, but the physician at the quarry, who is interested financially in the company, told me that Mr. Chapman held three-fourths of the capital stock (about a third of a million dollars), and that in ordinary years the company paid fifteen and twenty per cent dividends. The product of a few laborers coupled with a few thousands of dollars worth of machinery, tools, etc., gives the principal owner the princely income of sixty or seventy thousand per year. The quarrymen are paid \$2 per day, common laborers \$1.25; the splitters and cutters work by the square, consisting of 100 square feet, and average from \$1.75 to \$2.50 per day. They work with lightning-like rapidity, making one's head swim while watching them. The men are what is called "Pennsylvania Germans," hard working and thrifty. They are in many points situated more advantageously than are the workmen of the cities, yet their lot is not to be envied. The product of these quarries is roofing slate and slabs for paving. No better object lesson of the necessity for the single tax can be shown than these quarries. Holding natural opportunities worth thousands of dollars per year, the personal property is insignificant in comparison; I feel satisfied that their taxation is absurdly low. I am safe in saying that the few farms scattered about the quarries, taken together, pay as much tax as does any one company.

SAMUEL E. CLARKSON,

Bethlehem, Pa.

CAUCUSES AND CONVENTIONS.

To the Editor of The Standard—Sir: THE STANDARD has done good service to the country by advocating the secret system of balloting. If the other doctrines which it advocates are never realized THE STANDARD will have been a great success for what it has done in securing us better methods of electing our law makers.

But, after all the states shall have adopted the Australian system of balloting, there is still another reform necessary before we can abolish what is called machine politics. Our present methods of nominating candidates must be abolished before we can have a government of the people. The people must nominate their candidates as well as elect them. Nominating candidates by means of caucuses and conventions is a method of depriving the people of their choice. The candidate for president is seldom the choice of the people. The present incumbent was probably not the choice of more than one per cent of the people of the country. The same may be said of Hayes and a number of others.

Is it not possible for the people to do their own nominating of candidates, instead of doing it by caucuses and conventions? I think it is.

I can see no objection to the following plan: Let us by all means first get the Australian system of balloting. Then let us take first an informal ballot of the whole people on a single day. If any one candidate should secure a majority of all the votes cast let him be declared elected. But if not, take enough of those receiving the highest number of votes to make three-fourths of all the votes cast and place all of these in nomination. Then let the one receiving the highest number of votes be declared elected.

Someone may be able to see some serious defect in this suggestion, and, if so, let us have it. But I believe some such plan would be a great improvement on the present. It seems to me it would strike the hardest kind of a blow at the head of the greatest of all the curses of the country, the machine politician.

J. G. MALCOLM.

Hutchinson, Kansas.

PREPARED FOR THE RUPTURE OF HIS PARTY.

Pierre, So. Dak., Signal.

We vaguely ask, what's the matter with Speaker Reed that he has to wear a "dude belly-band."

BALLOT REFORM.

THE LAW AND THE FACTS.

SEARCHING FOR HOLES IN THE NEW BALLOT LAW.

New York Telegram, July 29.

A serious question has arisen in Brooklyn, Buffalo and Albany, which Attorney-General Tabor says he may have to take official cognizance of and give an opinion on. It is a question upon two sections, one of which reads that a voter may have ten minutes in a booth to prepare his ballot, and the other which reads that he may spoil three ballots and still have another. It is argued by one side that the section means ten minutes for each ballot, and that a dozen voters could thus waste eight hours preventing others from voting. The other claim is that a voter could only use ten minutes altogether. An official decision will soon be given.

The attorney-general says that he will give no more opinions to cities of the state upon the various sections of the ballot reform bill. He says that they all have corporation counsels with enough intelligence to give such opinions, and he will allow such officials to decide for their own cities.

Queries from villages will be answered with a copy of his full diagnosis of the law. In answer to a question as to how many sample ballots should be printed, he said that the number of ballots to be thus printed is not specified in the act, and it is therefore to be left to the judgment of the county clerks to determine how many shall be printed for such a purpose.

THE LAW IS PERFECTLY CLEAR ON THE MATTER.

New York Times, July 30.

Somebody has come forward with a formidable query as to how long a person may monopolize one of the compartments provided for preparing ballots, and the attorney-general is said to regard it as a somewhat serious question. The law says that a person shall remain in or occupy one of those compartments "in no case longer than ten minutes, when all the other booths or compartments are occupied." That seems to be sufficiently explicit, but if a person spoils a ballot he may obtain another full set on returning the first, "and so on successively, not exceeding four full sets in all." Now, then, quoth the anxious inquirer, can an obstructive person occupy a booth ten minutes in spoiling a ballot, get another set and go on with the same performance, and so keep possession for forty minutes? If so, a dozen such persons may hold a booth all day, and by some sort of conspiracy to get and keep possession of all of them there may be a serious obstruction to voting. This sounds so much like one of Governor Hill's earlier objections to the ballot law that we wonder he never thought of it. It is based upon the supposition that somebody is going to get up a conspiracy to obstruct voting and hinder the election, and that such an attempt could not be interfered with. But it is perfectly plain from the provisions of the law that no person by willful blundering can in any case occupy a booth more than ten minutes if it is wanted by any one else, whether his occupation is intermittent or continuous.

So far as questions raised about the application of the various provisions of the law are serious, there will be no difficulty in furnishing answers to them, but before the different officers charged with the performance of any duty under it are called upon to take action there ought to be a set of resolutions issued which will make their duties plain to them. There are politicians who are anxious to raise difficulties and to make the working of the law appear troublesome to the voters, and in some cases there may be attempts to obstruct it. We do not believe there will be many such, but the way should be made as clear as possible. This should not be left entirely to public officials, for they may not feel sufficient interest and zeal to attend thoroughly to the matter. The ballot reform league in Massachusetts performed a very important function last year in making the first application of the new ballot law in that state successful. It allowed neither public officials nor voters to remain in ignorance as to its provisions or to the part they had to play in carrying them out.

We have a ballot reform league here which did noble service in securing the passage of the act as we have it. This organization ought now to bestir itself to see that everything is done to promote its successful application, and that any effort to embarrass its operation shall be defeated. There is really no difficulty whatever, so far as voters are concerned, provided public officials and inspectors of elections understand their duties and faithfully perform them. No excuse for failure or mistake should be left to any of these. The law is clear enough, notwithstanding the numerous questions that have been addressed to the attorney-general, but there will need to be some watchfulness and attention on the part of those who desire its success to prevent negligence and blundering. The ballot reform league should devote its attention to making the new system of voting successful at the start.

THE MEASURE EXPLAINS ITSELF.

HORACE E. DEMING TALKS ABOUT THE NEW BALLOT LAW.

New York Times, July 31.

Mr. Horace E. Deming was asked yesterday

what, if anything, he had to say about the replies made by the attorney-general to questions concerning various provisions of the new ballot law.

"The attorney-general is all right," said Mr. Deming. "He knows the ballot law is the law of the state, and he tells the people who have fired questions at him that it is a practicable law and an enforceable one, and gives those who want to know how to do certain things his idea of the best route for them to take. Ballot reformers are quite satisfied. The attorney-general may be a trifle prolix, but he gets there just the same. Suppose three men should leave my office and go to the Times office, following the directions of three other men. One might go via the water front, another by the Broadway cars and the third might simply follow his nose—what would be the odds provided that all these men got to the prescribed destination? It's the getting there that we want."

"If I were to make a general statement concerning the output from the attorney-general's office, I should say that, although his answers are clear and easily understandable, there was no need for him to be called upon to consider the questions to which his answers refer. There is an answer to every one of these questions in the law itself, if one will consider it with reference to the general law, and any intelligent man may find the answer to any question which may be suggested by any contingency if he will turn to the law, remembering that it was meant to be and is a part of the general law of the state regulating elections. The Times had an editorial this morning in line with what I am saying, and I could not do better than to point you to that editorial and say, 'Them's my sentiments.'"

"The whole thing is simple; there is nothing hard to get hold of in the law. It was drawn with the idea constantly in view of making it a straightforward, comprehensible thing. Take that matter of dividing up election districts. There is nothing new in that, for, under the general law of the state, it is the duty of election officers to provide additional polling places as they may become necessary, and the number of polling places has been on the steady increase for years. But the provision in the new law which called for an increase in the number of polling places stirred up a large amount of discussion. It amused ballot reformers, but they did not object to the discussion. They knew that in the end the thing would come out right side up, and that was the way that it did come out. The attorney-general told somebody who fired a question at him concerning this provision of the law, that there was nothing wrong with it and that there would be no difficulty in carrying it into effect."

"Do I approve of kindergarten schools for the instruction of the people, to the end that when the people come to vote they may know how to do it? Well, I can't say that I think that the people who vote need to be drilled beforehand. If the officers understand their duties it will not be difficult for them to so conduct the election that every voter will have an easy time of it. I should say that the officers should be drilled a little, so that they may be prepared to assume the conduct of the election and be sure to carry it along according to the law. I should be glad to do my share in the work of properly equipping the election officers with knowledge of their respective duties. I will take a teachers' class in the institute of instruction, conduct a sort of normal school, as it were."

"For the people I should say that a perusal of the law itself would be sufficient. The law should be on sale in every book store, and everybody who can read should read it. I hope that the Times will urge upon its readers the duty of reading the law."

THE AUSTRALIAN SYSTEM INDORSED.

At the convention of the People's independent party of Nebraska, held July 29, the Australian system of holding elections was indorsed.

WHY DON'T YOU DO IT, MR. JOURNAL?

Journal of the Rights of Labor.

"These alien landlords return absolutely nothing for the tax they levy upon this country," says the Boston Globe, in reference to the British aristocrats and capitalists who have got control of so much American soil. It would puzzle the Globe not a little to show what any landlord returns for the tax he levies on the people. Either these people own the land which they call theirs or they do not. If they do, the incidental circumstance that they don't spend their profits in this country cannot invalidate their title. If they do not, then neither does any other landlord. Why has not the Boston Globe and other papers of this stamp courage enough to face the whole question of landlordism and deal with it on broad general principles instead of nibbling at a little corner of it? The only respect in which alien landlordism differs from any other kind is that, as there are fewer interested in upholding it, it is more exposed to attack and more easy to abolish.

SO HE IS.

Middleton, Ohio, Signal.

From the New England coast to the mines of Pennsylvania and from the rich agricultural districts of the Mississippi valley to the confines of the Rocky mountains, the tolling laborer on farms, factories and mines is sending forth his complaint and swearing vengeance on a system of robbery that is crushing them to the earth.

THE FREE TRADE FIGHT.

THE McKINLEY BILL.

In odd moments during the past week the senate has taken up the McKinley bill, tacked on an amendment or so, and have then put it on ice until they want to use it again.

THE CONGRESSIONAL CONFERENCE.

OFFICERS AND AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTED—DETERMINED TO HAVE A WORD TO SAY ABOUT THE CANDIDATES NOMINATED THIS FALL.

The conference of clubs on congressional nominations held their second meeting last Monday evening at 73 Lexington avenue.

Mr. Hinman, from the committee on permanent organization, reported recommending that Mr. E. Ellery Anderson of the Reform club be chosen as chairman, W. J. Browne of the Workingmen's tariff reform league as secretary, John A. Beall of the Free trade club as treasurer, and the following executive committee: John A. Mason of the Harlem democratic club, William McCabe of the Manhattan single tax club, and H. B. B. Stapler of the Reform club. After a motion was adopted that Messrs. Hinman and Crossdale be added to the executive committee the report was approved.

Mr. Anderson made a short speech on taking the chair, in which he reviewed our present representatives in congress, and said that we must have able men to represent us.

The secretaries of all the clubs represented in the conference were requested to send in their membership lists, so that the executive committee could classify them into their congressional districts. As soon as that work is completed congressional district organization will be begun. The conference then adjourned until August 20, when they will meet in room 24, Cooper union.

All communications for the present will be sent to Jason Hinman, 111 Broadway.

After the conference adjourned the executive committee met and elected John A. Mason of the Harlem democratic club as chairman and Jason Hinman secretary. The executive committee will meet next Monday evening at the rooms of the reform club, 12 East Thirty-third street.

THE WORKINGMEN'S TARIFF REFORM LEAGUE

At the meeting of the Workingmen's tariff reform league last Friday evening it was decided to discontinue the weekly meetings for the present, and leave the management of its affairs to the executive committee. The main work just now is increasing the membership. All the members of the league have been supplied with blanks for signatures, which, as fast as names are secured, will be forwarded to the executive committee at 73 Lexington avenue, who will enroll them into their congressional districts. As soon as the conference of clubs on the congressional campaign have outlined their plan active work will be begun.

Charles P. Kelly, James Libby and H. L. Davis were added to the league's delegation to the conference of clubs.

BOLTS THE G. O. P.

THE MOST PROMINENT REPUBLICAN PAPER OF KANSAS DECLARES FOR FREE TRADE.

The Daily Champion of Atchison, Kan., founded by and edited by the late Governor John A. Martin, July 31 came out squarely for free trade.

For thirty years it has been a stalwart republican organ and the active defender of the protective idea. While still maintaining its republican principles, it says to-day that the west has no use for protection.

Following is the editorial in which the Champion justifies its change of position on the tariff question:

When such recognized republican leaders as James G. Blaine and Preston B. Plumb essay to depart very widely from their life long convictions on the tariff question, it certainly will not be seriously contended that other republicans, who have never faltered in their adherence to the protective tariff idea, forfeit their party standing or furnish grounds for impeaching their republicanism if they too, upon mature deliberation, make bold to express views on that subject at variance with the accepted party dogmas.

For over thirty years the Champion has advocated and defended the protective tariff theory. It has argued this question with all the logic at its command. It has furnished columns of facts and figures in support of protection versus free trade. Sincere in its belief that the only true economic policy for this country was "protection to American industries," it has neglected no opportunity to set forth its advantages, and to combat what it has invariably designated the free trade heresy. Being a republican journal, it has specially emphasized this republican doctrine.

Recently, however, the Champion has discovered certain reasons for very materially changing its mind on this subject, and at this writing it has no hesitancy in declaring that, all sentiment and partisan bias aside, while a protective tariff is a decided and almost indispensable benefit to the east, the great manufacturing and financial stronghold of our country, for the west, the great agricultural area of

our land, it is a positive injury, a barrier to its progress, an insurmountable hindrance to its development, and an effectual estoppel to its true material prosperity.

What has led the Champion to this conclusion, this radical change in its economic opinion? Briefly this: It has found that under the dominance of the protective idea the east has steadily grown in wealth at the expense and to the detriment of the west. In other words, that eastern manufacturers and capitalists have increased their accumulations enormously, while the farmers of the west have, during the same period, made no proportionate gain, but on the contrary have been reduced to a condition of vassalage, of tribute-paying serfs.

To put it in still another form. The capitalists and manufacturers of the east, aided and abetted by a protective tariff, have made money in fabulous sums while the farmers of the west have been scarcely able to maintain themselves respectably. Not only so, but eastern manufacturers and capitalists have, by reason of this protective tariff, been placed in a position where their financial power gives them practical control of our government in all its departments, despite the votes and wishes of the people of the western states—who, by reason of being large creditors, of necessity borrowers of and dependents upon the east, are virtually politically disfranchised.

These facts have induced the Champion at this time to make public its conviction that a protective tariff is one of the many things the west does not want and cannot afford to sustain.

The western farmer has no interest whatever in a protective tariff. His interest rather lies in the direction of free trade—of access to all markets—wherever his products may be in demand. It is for his interest to sell what he raises wherever in all the wide world he can find a purchaser, and thus provide himself with the means of disposing of his surplus crops. Not only is he vitally interested in securing all possible markets, but equally so in buying what he needs as cheaply as possible. Sell where he may and buy at the lowest figures—this, selfish as it may seem, is what most concerns the western farmer.

Fretrade will give the west the markets of the world, and an opportunity to buy what it requires at less than half it now pays for these same articles.

Lumber, hardware, furniture, clothing, groceries, and agricultural implements, these the west needs principally. Free trade will bring these things to us at figures far below protective prices.

In all this the Champion speaks solely from the standpoint of self-interest. It is with states and sections as with individual citizens—self preservation is the first obligation. A due regard to our sectional preservation, our territorial interest, demands the adoption of free trade—commercial reciprocity with all nations.

The east, as we have stated, has grown dangerously rich by means of a protective tariff, now let the west assert itself and use the means at its command to change its economic policy to one more conducive to sectional welfare.

This question is broader than party lines. It is more vital than mere formal political organizations and more essential than the dominance of any particular set of politicians, for it touches our life and is indissolubly interwoven with our existence.

Protection continued twenty years longer and the west, with its vast agricultural possibilities, would be a pauper bound hand and foot. Let us who live here in the west be fools no longer, but let us exercise our common sense and protect our own interests by obtaining just as quickly as possible the freest trade with all its attendant benefits.

RECIPROCITY? YES!

LET US EXCHANGE GOODS WITH ALL NATIONS. Harrisburg Patriot.

Reciprocity? Yes, if the principle be applied to all nations with which the people of the United States are engaged in commerce. Yes, with all nations that are willing to reciprocate. Yes, especially with all nations which can send us cheaper raw materials for manufacture than our own country can supply and cheaper necessities of life for our poor. But to refuse reciprocity with one friendly nation while it is sought to effect it with another is simply a declaration of war against the nation whose offer of reciprocity is rejected. England, for instance, has for years kept her ports open to American products, and our agricultural staples, as well as many of our manufactured articles, find sale in the English market to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars' worth each succeeding year. But Mr. Blaine has not yet screwed his courage up to the sticking point of proposing reciprocity even with our neighbor, Canada, which is a British dependency.

Why should the United States prefer to force the unwilling nations of South and Central America into reciprocity, to accepting the standing offer of England of reciprocal trade? The duty on sugar, which Mr. Blaine proposes to hold as a rod over the Latin-American nations for the purpose of compelling them to make treaties of commercial reciprocity with the United States, would affect none of them to any extent except Cuba, which is a dependency of Spain. Our imported sugar comes chiefly from that

country. Is it more important to the people of the United States that they should have free commerce with Spain and Spanish American countries than it is that they should trade on equal footing with England or Anglo-American Canada? Certainly trade between intelligent, progressive English-speaking nations is more likely to prove mutually beneficial than a commerce between a people of advanced civilization and other peoples that have made but little progress in the industrial arts.

Reciprocity with Canada, for instance, would at once open a market for the products of our mines and farms as well as for our manufactures which could not be equaled by that afforded by the non-progressive people of South and Central America in fifty years. Statistics show that when we had reciprocity with Canada the people of that country bought more coal from the states than was imported into the states from Nova Scotia. It is also a fact that under conditions of reciprocal trade Canada bought much more largely of our agricultural products than we bought from her, and as for the sale of American manufactures in Canada, it far exceeded in value that of Canadian goods in this country. Mr. Blaine should make haste to annex Canada to his reciprocal scheme.

BELSHAZZER ONCE MORE.

IT IS WRITTEN THAT "OUR FOREIGN MARKET FOR BREADSTUFFS GROWS NARROWER"—DO THE FARMERS SEE IT? Louisville Courier-Journal.

Nothing more clearly indicates the growth of free trade sentiment in America than the fact that Mr. James G. Blaine is an open advocate of freer trade, or what he is pleased to call reciprocity.

In 1887, when Mr. Cleveland called the attention of congress to the fact that a war tariff in time of peace was stifling our foreign commerce, Mr. Blaine telegraphed his response from Paris, saying in effect that the home market was good enough for Americans, and that any movement in the direction of free trade was nothing short of treason.

To-day Mr. Blaine telegraphs from Bar Harbor his instructions to republican senators to refuse to abolish the revenue duty on sugar, and, instead, to use it as the price of free trade with West Indies and South America.

We call the attention of the farmers west and south to the following paragraph from Mr. Blaine's letter, which is worth all he has written for the past ten years:

Our foreign market for breadstuffs grows narrower. Great Britain is exerting every nerve to secure her bread supply from India, and the rapid expansion of the wheat area in Russia gives us a powerful competitor in the markets of Europe.

Why is this? What is it that erects a barrier against us in the markets of Europe?

The tariff. The McKinley bill is a declaration of commercial war against every nation of Christendom.

We refuse to admit the products of English mills, just as Spain refuses to admit the products of American fields into her colonial markets.

What is wise economy in our legislation cannot be the folly of ignorance in the legislation of Spain.

Surely if it is good policy for America to protect her people against a flood of cheap goods from Europe, it is good policy for Spain to protect her colonies against a flood of cheap grain from America.

Doubtless the Spanish cabinet have copies of the campaign speeches of Mr. Blaine and Mr. Harrison, and they have learned that cheap goods make cheap men.

It seems impossible for Mr. Blaine to understand the operation of international commerce. He says: "The aggregate balance of trade with all Latin-America is against us." This simply means we buy more of Latin-America than it buys of us. We do this because we get what we want cheaper there than elsewhere, whereas Latin-America can buy what she wants cheaper in Europe than in the United States.

Then Mr. Blaine proceeds to illustrate, and says: "Since we repealed the duty on coffee in 1872 we have imported the products of Brazil to the extent of \$821,806,000, and have sold her only \$156,135,000 of our own products."

That is a tremendous indictment of the tariff. Now, see what the oracular gentleman from Maine has to say about it: "The difference, \$664,671,000, we have paid in gold or its equivalent, and Brazil has expended the vast sum in the markets of Europe."

Nothing could be more misleading than this analysis. Let us try to understand the transaction.

We bought of Brazil, because she sold at low prices.

Brazil did not want to exchange coffee and hides for corn or wheat or cotton, because Brazil is an agricultural country itself.

What Brazil wanted, and what we could not sell her, were manufactured articles: woolen goods, cotton goods, hardware, etc., etc.

So Brazil went to Europe and bought what she wanted, and paid for them with drafts on America.

These drafts the English took and sent them to America to pay for the wheat and cotton which England wanted.

To say we paid for them in gold is ridiculous.

To say we pay for them in gold's equivalent is to utter a very simple thing in a very solemn way; of course we did.

Only it is to be noticed that while our protected laborers in the factories can not sell their products to Brazil in competition with the "pauper labor" of England, our unprotected farmers sell and must sell their products in the competitive markets of Europe.

Does Latin-America really want any great quantity of our agricultural products?

Certainly not. Latin-America is almost exclusively an agricultural country.

Latin-America wants dry goods, furniture, boots and shoes, hardware and articles made in the mills and the factories.

Every consular report shows this. Every issue by the treasury department of a volume entitled "Commercial Relations" shows this. Every lesson in geography teaches it. Mr. Blaine knows it. Mr. Frye knows it. Mr. Sherman knows it. Mr. Plumb knows it.

All this cry about reciprocity is pure hypocrisy.

It is a last desperate attempt "to save the party" by deluding the people.

Here, farmers of America, is the handwriting on the wall:

Our foreign market for breadstuffs grows narrower.

Down with the war tariff!

RICH SUBSIDY PICKINGS.

Boston Globe.

Some shipowners are still holding their vessels at the docks, hesitating whether to convert them into coal barges or try it again. We advise them to hold on till Mr. Frye's bonanza bill becomes a law.

Suppose the hesitating shipowner, located at Portland, in Oregon, has three ships. He has only to load them for some foreign port and receive 30 cents per registered ton for every 1,000 miles traveled. If the first is a 4,000-ton ship, she can take 1,000 tons of Oregon wheat to some South American port, a distance of 7,000 miles, and receive a bounty of \$8,400. Meanwhile, the second ship of the same size could be on hand at that port and reship the same wheat to San Francisco, receiving from the government \$8,400. The other ship could then take the same wheat to Liverpool by way of the Pacific and Indian oceans and the Suez canal, for which the government would pay something like \$25,000. That cargo of wheat would last a lifetime as a means of plundering the United States treasury.

The carrying trade is going to be fun if the republican leaders have their way. So the best advice to shipowners is, don't give up the ships! It's going to be Fourth of July all the year round for the carrying trade by and by, and the carriers can even get rich at transporting coals to Newcastle.

Uncle Sam, he pays the freight.

THE STUPIDITY OF SUBSIDIES.

BUILDING SHIPS ON THAT PLAN WILL NOT MAKE COMMERCE—MAKING TRADE FREE WILL.

Chicago Herald.

When the French government, with the foolish idea that subsidies would create ships and ships commerce, passed its subsidy bill, the natural result followed. British ship builders built the ships, got the money, and the ships are now idle at French wharves. The French mercantile flag is about as great a rarity on the seas as the American flag. Ships do not make commerce, nor do express wagons make express matter. Unless the owner of the express wagon does business on terms favorable to his patrons he will not get a profitable amount of business. Unless the nation owning the ships does business on terms favorable to other nations its ships will rot at their wharves for want of freight.

The following dispatch from London shows what will be the natural result of the ship-building bounty bill if passed by this country:

Great interest is felt in London in the ship-building bounty bill now pending in congress. Arrangements are being concluded here for floating a great English company, with a capital of \$50,000,000, to build steamers in America on the Delaware and take advantage of the proposed bounties as soon as the bill becomes a law.

As English ship builders built the French ships to get the bounty, so do they propose to build American ships for the bounty. But so long as this country taxes all the foreign manufactured articles brought here by ships the American flag will continue to be a curiosity in foreign ports and on the seas, and the subsidized ships will rot in idleness. For all the good that the subsidy bill will do to American commerce the government may as well subsidize pigstails to make corkscrews.

JIMMY AND HIS DAD.

PROTECTING THE HOME MANUFACTURED RHEUMATIC PILL AGAINST THE FOREIGN PAUPER PILL.

Mauch Chunk Democrat.

Jimmy—He looks at the label of a little box containing Dad's vegetable rheumatic pills, made and sold in London, price 1s. 1½d., and asks: "What do these figures mean?"

Dad—One shilling and one-and-a-half pence is the price of the box of pills in London, and that's about twenty-five cents in American money.

Jimmy—But, dad, didn't you say they cost

seventy-five cents at the drug store up town? Dad—Yes, seventy-five cents is what I must pay for them.

Jimmy—I s'pose it costs about fifty cents a box to carry them across the sea in the big ship?

Dad—Oh! no; that isn't it—it's the protective tariff. You see, there's about forty cents tariff on every box, and that's why they cost so much here.

Jimmy—What does the tariff look like? What is it? I never saw it.

Dad—The tariff, why it's a tax they must pay to protect American labor.

Jimmy—Then it protects you, don't it, because you're a laborer?

Dad—Well, no, not exactly, because I don't make, but only ~~take~~ the pills. You see, it's the American pill maker that it protects.

Jimmy—Then pill making must be a very good business if the ones who make 'em get an extra half dollar for every box.

Dad—But the pill makers don't get it, the tax goes to the government.

Jimmy—Then you must pay a half a dollar tax every time you must have a box of them pills when you're laid up sick with rheumatism and can't work, and I s'pose that's the reason that half the time we have no butter and only dry bread in the house.

Dad—Well, anyhow, it's the tariff.

Jimmy—Who made that tariff that puts fifty cents a box on sick people's pills?

Dad—Why, the republicans made it, because they go in for protection.

Jimmy—And are you going to vote the republican ticket this time?

Dad—Well, Jimmy, I guess I'll have to think over it before I do.

HOW TO CAPTURE CANADA.

Erastus Wiman in North American Review for August.

It seems now, in the natural order of things in the United States, that Canada should be captured. With armed cruisers in the St. Lawrence watching the fishermen of the United States, who are compelled to take out licenses from a foreign government to authorize them to pursue their peaceful vocation; with the assembling of a fleet of armed vessels from both countries in Behring straits to detect or protect Canadian sealers; with rumors of great military preparations and increase of defensive armament; the arrival of torpedo boats; the construction of the Bermuda cable, justified only by war purposes, and other unusual movements in times of peace, it is no wonder that the people of the United States are somewhat startled, and that the question is asked, "Has not the time for the capture of Canada come?" No one dreams of war for this purpose. No other two nations have interests so identical, and there are none whose future is so wrapped up in each other's peace and prosperity, as Great Britain and the United States. There never was less inclination apparent among any people than among those of the United States for the acquirement of additional territory by the aid of the sword. There is, however, a great desire—nay, a great necessity—for an expansion of their trade to continental dimensions; and if Canada can be commercially captured by the peaceful means of policy, it is a clear duty to capture her in that way. If the enormous resources of this "greater half of the continent" can be made tributary to the progress of the United States by legislation, by occupancy through individual purchase, by development, and by the creation of a mutuality of interests, it would seem to be the very best form of statesmanship to achieve that result. The time and the circumstances are extremely favorable to accomplish this purpose, and if the military preparations have the effect of directing attention to the question of the possibility of a peaceful capture, they will not have been in vain.

ABOUT BLAINE.

Pittsburg Kansan.

If Blaine keeps on he will be a straight democrat.

Blaine is the biggest assistant democrat in America.

Blaine's reciprocity scheme is free trade under another name.

CRACKING THE SHELL.

A wider market is only another name for a freer trade. Mr. Blaine has progressed forward while his party in the house has crawled backward.—[New York World.]

The McKinley bill is not perfect, but it will be improved.—[St. Louis Globe-Democrat (rep).]

Frye is not free to admit that Blaine is right in his views. Of course not. Your out and out protectionist admits nothing free.—[Philadelphia Times.]

Ships which the government keeps afloat with bounty bladders are likely to continue to float; but why should the whole country be taxed for these ship subsidy bladders? Why should ship builders and ship owners or silver mine owners be given assured profits out of the public treasury, and not everybody else as well?—[Philadelphia Telegraph (rep).]

Mr. Blaine tries to make it appear that the only way to open a market for our products is to bargain for it. But when fair trade exchange is unobstructed by tariff walls commodities find markets easily enough. Other commercial nations will gladly exchange their goods which we need for our bread-

stuffs and meats which they need, if we will permit them to do it, and there will be mutual profit in the transaction.—[St. Louis Post-Dispatch.]

The republicans are in the position of the fellow who followed the jack-o'-lantern into the swamp. The light is liable to go out at any moment, and they are up to their knees in mud.—[Indianapolis News.]

The liveliest craft afloat now—the tariff tug of war.—[Philadelphia Record.]

How very absurd it is to send Dr. Salmon and his experts to England in the hope of convincing the Britishers that our cattle are healthy and ought to be purchased freely by British consumers! What do we care for British trade when there is so great a rush every day in our "home market?" Let us chew all our own beef, and always bite off as much as we can.—[Louisville Courier-Journal.]

It is charged that Blaine's reciprocity theory means free wool and free iron ores for the languishing manufactures of New England. Of course it does, and it would be valueless if it meant anything else.—[Philadelphia Times.]

Mr. Blaine's idea is diametrically opposed to the principle of non-intercourse on which the McKinley bill is founded, and conforms to the fact that no nation has ever become great without commerce. That is the source of England's power, the cause of her vast wealth.—[Indianapolis News.]

POWDERLY ON THE FORCE BILL.

HE DENOUNCES IT AS A MOST OUTRAGEOUS AND UNJUST MEASURE.

Special to New York World.

Pittsburg.—General Master Workman Powderly has addressed a letter to the Knights of Labor in which he arraigns the federal election, or force bill, in a most vigorous manner, saying there is more intimidation in four lines of the law than in all the southern outrages that have occurred since the war. He says:

Shorn of verbiage, the bill is intended to perpetuate the existence of the party in power besides intending to encourage fraud. Section 9 is in direct violation of the contract by which the several states are bound to the United States, and is a most unwarrantable interference in the legislation of the sisterhood of states. It is claimed that this law will enable the colored citizens to vote free from intimidation and influence. That may be true of the outside of the polling places, but it simply transfers the intimidation and influence to the inside of the polling booth. Why not act the part of men and say that the colored men are not fit to have a vote, for that is what they mean. If there be a body of men in this land who do not know enough to do their own voting, if they lack the manhood to defend their ballots with their lives at the polls, then that body of men are not the kind to be privileged to vote for those who make laws for others.

The democratic party does its best to intimidate the colored citizens of the south, and they give as a reason that if they did not do so they would be subject to negro rule down there, or as they put it, "ignorant rule." The workmen of the north have never imposed ignorant rule where they elected their own representatives.

The letter goes on to say:

Our laws should not be framed in such a way as to recognize ignorance or illiteracy, for to recognize illiteracy is to perpetuate it. Every law should aim at the abolition of illiteracy, and instead of making laws to guard the uneducated men at the polls we should make laws to guard the republic against illiteracy by obliging all voters to know how to read and write before voting.

He calls on the knights to voice their sentiments, and suggests that the name of every congressman who voted for the bill shall be published to the world, and the citizens who are opposed to such high-handed methods should scratch them on next election day.

WHY SHOULDN'T THEY PLAY BALL IN VACANT LOTS?

New York Star.

Strolling on the outside of Prospect park yesterday, I noticed that the vacant lots toward the Kings county penitentiary were filled with ball players. A policeman who was looking at one of the games attracted my attention, and I asked him how it was that no attempt was made by him to stop the playing. "It's no use," he said, "to try to prevent ball playing on the vacant lots. The players begin to fill them almost as soon as daybreak and remain till sunset. If an attempt were made to break up the games it would be necessary to have a hundred policemen on the ground. I have seen as many as fifteen hundred spectators watching a game on these lots. What show would a single policeman have against such a crowd? As long as the young fellows don't play in the streets we let them alone."

PROTECTIONISTS PROVING TOO MUCH.

Boston Globe.

The [Boston] Journal [rep.] makes a great point of the report of a New Jersey linen establishment that flax can be bleached in this country better and easier than in England. We are glad to hear that, and never doubted that the American climate was at least as good for this purpose as any other. But, if so, what in blue blazes is the need of protection? What is the need of a tremendously increased duty on flax and linen, as is proposed by the McKinley bill? It seems as though our high protection friends will never understand that the more they prove that this country has advantages over other countries the more they prove the tariff unnecessary.

SINGLE TAX NEWS.

SINGLE TAX PLATFORM.

The single tax contemplates the abolition of all taxes upon labor or the products of labor—that is to say, the abolition of all taxes save one tax levied on the value of land, irrespective of improvements.

Since in all our states we now levy some tax on the value of land, the single tax can be instituted by the simple and easy way of abolishing, one after another, all other taxes now levied, and commensurately increasing the tax on land values, until we draw upon that one source for all expenses of government; the revenue being divided between local governments, state governments and the general government, as the revenue from direct taxes is now divided between the local and state governments, or a direct assessment being made by the general government upon the states and paid by them from revenues collected in this manner.

The single tax is not a tax on land, and therefore would not fall on the use of land and become a tax on labor.

It is a tax, not on land, but on the value of land. Thus it would not fall on all land, but only on valuable land, and on that not in proportion to the use made of it, but in proportion to its value—the premium which the user of land must pay to the owner, either in purchase money or in rent, for permission to use valuable land. It would thus be a tax, not on the use or improvement of land, but on the ownership of land, taking what would otherwise go to the owner as owner, and not as user.

In assessments under the single tax all values created by individual use or improvement would be excluded, and the only value taken into consideration would be the value attaching to the bare land by reason of neighborhood, etc. Thus the farmer would have no more taxes to pay than the speculator who held a similar piece of land idle, and the man who on a city lot erected a valuable building would be taxed no more than the man who held a similar lot vacant.

The single tax, in short, would call upon men to contribute to the public revenues not in proportion to what they produce or accumulate, but in proportion to the value of the natural opportunities they hold. It would compel them to pay just as much for holding land idle as for putting it to its fullest use.

The single tax, therefore, would—

1. Take the weight of taxation off of the agricultural districts where land has little or no value irrespective of improvements, and put it on towns and cities where bare land rises to a value of millions of dollars per acre.

2. Dispense with a multiplicity of taxes and a horde of taxgatherers, simplify government and greatly reduce its cost.

3. Do away with the fraud, corruption and gross inequality inseparable from our present methods of taxation, which allow the rich to escape while they grind the poor. Land cannot be hid or carried off, and its value can be ascertained with greater ease and certainty than any other.

4. Give us with all the world as perfect freedom of trade as now exists between the states of our Union, thus enabling our people to share through free exchanges in all the advantages which nature has given to other countries, or which the peculiar skill of other peoples has enabled them to attain. It would destroy the trusts, monopolies, and corruptions which are the outgrowths of the tariff.

It would do away with the fines and penalties now levied on any one who improves a farm, erects a house, builds a machine, or in any way adds to the general stock of wealth.

It would leave every one free to apply labor or expend capital in production or exchange without fine or restriction, and would leave to each the full product of his exertion.

5. It would, on the other hand, by taking for public uses that value which attaches to land by reason of the growth and improvement of the community, make the holding of land unprofitable to the mere owner and profitable only to the user. It would thus make it impossible for speculators and monopolists to hold natural opportunities unused or only half used, and would throw open to labor the illimitable field of employment which the earth offers to man. It would thus solve the labor problem, do away with involuntary poverty, raise wages in all occupations to the full earnings of labor, make overproduction impossible until all human wants are satisfied, render labor saving inventions a blessing to all, and cause such an enormous production and such an equitable distribution of wealth as would give to all comfort, leisure and participation in the advantages of an advancing civilization.

The ethical principles on which the single tax is based are:

1. Each man is entitled to all that his labor produces. Therefore no tax should be levied on the products of labor.

2. All men are equally entitled to what God has created and to what is gained by the general growth and improvement of the community of which they are a part. Therefore, no one should be permitted to hold natural opportunities without a fair return to all for any special privilege thus accorded to him, and that value which the growth and improvement of the community attaches to land should be taken for the use of the community.

SINGLE TAX PLATES.

A NEW FIELD FOR WORKERS AND A CALL FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION—NOW IS THE ACCEPTED TIME.

The field first worked by the Memphis single tax association through the medium of the "patent inside" press, has been enlarged during the past week by an arrangement entered into with the A. M. Kellogg newspaper company, whereby they have agreed to make and furnish to any newspaper requesting them "plates" of the articles edited by this association. Newspapers may be divided into three classes:

1. Papers in which the entire matter is set up and printed in the home office. To this class belong all our large morning dailies.

2. Papers in which most of the matter is set up in their own offices, but a part is what is known in the trade as "plate matter," which is furnished in the shape of stereotypes by the "patent inside" publishing houses and by the American press association, whose main office is located at 33 Vesey street, New York, with branches in the principal cities of the United States. Most of the evening dailies, the best of the weeklies and the Sunday supplements of our large morning dailies belong to this class, and the printing is done entirely in their own offices, the plates being used in connection with type.

3. The "patent inside" papers, which are printed on one side by the "ready print" publishing houses and on the other by the proprietor in the home office. These are, for the most part, country weeklies.

It is with this last class that the Memphis single tax association has labored since December last, with the encouraging result of securing the insertion each week of two columns of our articles in about 700 papers; average circulation of each paper, 500; average number of readers to each paper, 3½; total reading public reached, 1,225,000. The correspondence brought about by these publications soon showed us that there were a number of editors who were desirous of publishing single tax articles, but did not wish them to be edited by any one for them, and preferred to have them appear on the home side of their papers. This could only be accomplished in one of two ways: Either for the editor to set up the article in his own office from copy sent him by us, or to use plate matter. The first was too expensive, and for quite a time we found the second impracticable, owing to the fact that the American press association could not be convinced that there was demand enough in the country for single tax news to justify them in keeping such plates in stock. The managers of the New York office were very courteous to us, and expressed their willingness to supply any demand that might be shown to exist; but they stated that a circular that had been sent out to their branch houses brought but one response from local managers—that they were aware of no call for this class of matter. Now we are convinced that the persistent and active canvassing that thoroughgoing single tax men can do will result in bringing out such a demand for single tax matter from papers of the second class that the American press association will see its own advantage in meeting the same, and so another mighty engine will be set in motion to work for us in dispelling the mists of ignorance and prejudice that obscure the rising sun of industrial freedom.

The example of the Kellogg company in making plates of our articles for the use of such papers as prefer to have this matter appear in the "home side" will be followed shortly by the other publishing houses now running our articles in their "ready prints," since keen competition will compel them to keep up with the innovations of rivals and furnish equal accommodations to their patrons. This result can be brought about very soon if the single tax workers in every city, town, village and township will take it upon themselves to bring to the attention of the editor of their local paper the interest now being felt among all classes of people in the single tax theory, the space devoted to its discussion by the foremost of our magazines and newspapers, and the ease and cheapness with which he can get our articles.

If the local paper is a "patent inside" urge the editor to order the single tax department from his publisher, as this is the easiest and least costly way to get it, all that is necessary being the sending in of a request to have the same inserted in the place of general news and literary matter. If he prefers to have control and supervision of the articles, persuade him to order "plates" for a month or two on trial. The plates as prepared by the Kellogg company will cost one cent per running inch, or from twenty to twenty-five cents a column, the same as other plate matter.

If the paper is one of the second class the American press association probably supplies its plates, and it will not take many calls for this class of matter to convince the competent men who are managing it that the time has come to keep the latest single tax news and articles in stock. One of the best arguments to use with an evening daily is, that the workingmen, who are largely readers of evening papers, are almost a unit in favor of the single tax, and will support a paper having single tax articles in its columns. Convince an editor that his readers want a certain class of literature and he will publish it, even though convinced that it is a fraud.

bosh; the ordinary newspaper of to-day does not aspire to lead the public, but only to feed it with the pabulum it craves. Publishing a newspaper is a business like any other, and the demands of the trade are what publishers want to find out and satisfy.

Every single tax man can help this work along; but the greatest and most efficient work can be done by the drummers, who are generally good talkers and of pleasing address. If every drummer on the road who believes in the single tax were to make it his business to see and talk with the editors in the towns on his route, and were to try and interest his customers to ask for the insertion in their paper of single tax articles, we would have in less than a year seven thousand, instead of seven hundred, papers enlightening the people and teaching them their rights.

At the conference to be held in September, this entire matter will be presented to the single tax men assembled from all over the country and steps will be taken to induce the American press association to handle single tax articles. To this end, it would be well for single tax workers to use their best efforts to secure as many requests for our articles as they can get from papers using plate matter. These requests will prepare the ground for our committee, and should be sent to the New York office, in order that the general manager may see just what he can count on to start with. An earnest effort, a little persistent work now may be of a thousand times more value than later on. The iron is hot, strike it. R. G. BROWN.

Memphis, Tenn.

TURNER ON HIS TRAVELS.

HIS LETTER IS WRITTEN IN WASHINGTON STATE, BUT ONLY INCLUDES HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D. C.

FAIRHAVEN, Wash., July 27.—I hope not to be considered neglectful of the promise I made to our friends in Boston and vicinity to write a letter to THE STANDARD upon my arrival here containing incidents of the journey and impressions concerning the new northwest and its opportunities.

Leaving Boston on the evening of June 26, via the Fall River line, we enjoyed a pleasant trip on the elegant steamer Puritan, arriving in New York the next morning at 7 o'clock. Eating a hasty breakfast, we immediately re-embarked on the steamer Albany for a ride on the Hudson—a beautiful ride it was, too. Stopping at West Point for three hours, we saw the formal 1 o'clock drill of the cadets, and made a tour through the library, museum and other points of interest in this military training school. The trip from Jersey City to Washington was an interesting one, although the opportunities for observation were somewhat blurred owing to the speed at which we were carried along. The train on which we rode (the noon express) is said to be the fastest in America, covering the distance between these points in five hours. To arrive in Washington on the afternoon of a hot June day—and that, too, during one of the most intensely heated terms which that section has experienced in many years—is likely to make an impression on a "northern tenderfoot" not soon to be forgotten. The street scenes here are unlike our New England cities—in fact, so unlike any commercial city. It is a city of "parks and palaces." The broad sidewalks and avenues, as level as a house floor, and as straight as a line; the black, smooth pavements reflecting the heat like so many mighty furnaces; the absence of trucks and heavy teams of all kinds; the noiseless action of the pleasure vehicle wheels on the asphalt, make a sharp contrast to our northern city streets.

Arriving at the hotel, I noticed first of all that THE STANDARD occupied a conspicuous place among the other papers at the hotel newsstand. This pleasantly surprised me, as I had made it a point since my journey—commencing in eastern Maine, and continuing through New Brunswick into Maine again—at Bangor, Portland, Portsmouth and Fall River, in New York city, and in Jersey—all along the line, at every stop to scrutinize the newsstands, and not seeing THE STANDARD, ask for it. I was amused, too, at the variety of reply to my question: "Don't you keep THE STANDARD?" Frequently the answer would be a sharp "gruff" knowing "No"—and occasionally the newsdealer would ask: "Where is it published?" etc. Replying briefly as possible, I would always add, "Seeing some copies on the train, I supposed it to be on sale generally." For the first time in any city I had visited, I saw THE STANDARD on sale at the hotel newsstand in the St. James' in Washington. Here we met Brother Pigott of Boston, whose enthusiastic presence gave to the occasion a single tax tone, and we felt quite at home, although in a hot, strange city.

The next morning being Sunday, we attended services at the aristocratic Church of the Covenant, hoping to see the president, Mr. Wanamaker and other dignitaries of the capital who, as I was told, were wont to worship there. The weather evidently being warmer than their religious fervor, their pews were conspicuous for their vacancy, much to my disappointment, and apparently to the regret of the preacher, whose spirit seemed to be under a cloud, and all through the sermon was as languid as a policeman. This, it seems, was the last service of the season, and in his closing benediction the

parson invoked heaven's choicest blessings "upon the members of this church who are now about to retire to their various places of summer rest and recreation," and the richly clad "members" (mostly ladies) moved leisurely to their gilded carriages, which stood around the entrance to the vestibule, guarded by uniformed drivers and footmen, who sat bolt upright on their little seats in the broiling sun, without even a fan or a sunshade, and who, not being "members," of course had no need of a blessing. As we spread our "borrowed" umbrella and stepped out the side porch we were assured by the spectacle of a crowd on the side opposite that we were not the only creatures of curiosity, and the "he-ain't-there" expression on their faces declared we were not the only victims of disappointment. A cosmopolitan crowd, that. I fancied I could select representatives from nearly every state of the Union. The broad rim hat of the south, the slouch hat of the west, the turban hat and eye glass of the New England dude were there, with all the intermediate shades and touches. As a rule there was a resemblance in this respect; they all bore in one hand a spread umbrella, and in the other an unfolded fan. A good knowledge of Washington and its environments can be had easily by aid of the efficient public conveyance. There are several lines of phaetons, as they are called, a kind of low and convenient coach, which, like the electric, cable or horse propelled street car, charges a five cent fare.

Returning from a long ride on Sunday afternoon I saw a crowd gradually increasing at the junction of Ninth street and Pennsylvania avenue, nearly opposite my hotel. I joined them and was informed that an out-of-door meeting was about to be held there, a colored preacher being the orator of the occasion, who early announced that he would give way upon the arrival of the gospel wagon, which was expected at 6.15. The preacher was a young man full of enthusiasm, and though evidently uneducated possessed rare talent as a speaker. He would occasionally ridicule the example of those who preached from the gospel wagon, by referring to their objection to all forms of Sunday labor, while compelling a coachman to drive and allowing him to whip the horses on the Lord's day. These personalities seemed to please his audience, and each corner stayed, and the number constantly increased, until an expounder of revelation, with banners and charts, started an opposition meeting on his right flank. Then his hearers left him in battalions. It was almost painful to witness his efforts to retrieve his loss; but in spite of all attempts at wit and sarcasm they continued to go. It was a desperate moment for him, as he seemed to have lost his "grip," so to speak. Just then it occurred to me that the curiosity of the crowd might be aroused and their retreat checked if a question were asked. Permission to do so was courteously granted. This apparent interruption of the speaker, and the sound of a strange voice immediately stopped the stampede, and the audience was quickly doubled in numbers. My first question was in these words: "If, as you stated a few minutes ago, we are all the children of a common father, do you think we have inherited equal rights to the bounties of our Father?" "Yes, certainly, yes," he answered earnestly, and the glow on every one of the many faces in view seemed to say "ditto." I continued, "If this be so, if we are equally the heirs to our Father's bounty, why don't you, as a disciple of the apostle of justice, protest against the atrocious wrong which compels one man to pay another man for the use of God's bounty?" Many of the listeners seemed to see the point, but the preacher looked a little confused and said, "I don't quite understand you." "With your permission I will try to make it plain," I said, stepping forward, as he nodded assent. By this time the audience was a good Boston common size, and I had an opportunity to make a little speech which might seem like a "chestnut" to our Massachusetts friends, but which was evidently new to a Washington audience.

At the conclusion, the preacher, who as a good and appreciative auditor had listened attentively to every word, exclaimed excitedly, "That is politics!" "No, indeed! that is justice!" I answered, with the approval of the audience.

A public officer informed me that any resident could hold out-of-door meetings at any time without a permit. This affords an excellent opportunity for our Washington single tax friends which I hope they will improve. This improvised introduction made it easy for me to converse freely with a number of persons, and to obtain quite a knowledge of the social and economic conditions of Washington, which is, indeed, the "paradise of the tax dodger." The horizontal rate of taxation is \$7.50 on the thousand. With a low rate of assessment on unoccupied land, with all the expense of avenue construction and repair, and a large portion of the street expense, paid by the national government, land gambling is a profitable occupation, and extensive and expensive avenue construction is a consummation devoutly to be desired by the "best" citizens in Washington. The governor of the district is arbitrarily appointed by the president, and the residents have no voice in his selection, and in all national affairs they are absolutely disfranchised. A portion of Monday was spent in visiting the White house and other public buildings, a

description of which is familiar to everyone.

Leaving Washington at an early hour, by the way of Harper's Ferry and Deer Park, we started on a twenty-four hours' ride for Chicago. Before closing this portion of my letter, I wish to give a word of advice to traveling single tax friends. Always carry a number of copies of THE STANDARD with you, and if you lack the courage to offer them to neighboring passengers let them lie loosely about your seat, with the title page uppermost. In this way you will "angle" for congenial spirits, and you will find them, too, ere you travel long. LEVI H. TURNER.

SINGLE TAX LETTER WRITERS.

"THERE ARE IN AMERICA WOMEN AND CHILDREN DYING WITH HUNGER, WITH HUNGER MADE BY THE LAWS—WORK WITH US AND WE WILL NOT REST TILL WE HAVE REPEALED THOSE LAWS."

All that is needed to join the corps is to write to the address below pledging yourself to write at least one letter a week to one of the parties named in this column, and to urge every single tax acquaintance to do the same. Surely you can do this much to bring about the reign of justice on earth, and for the sake of those whose womanhood is being crushed out of them, of those children who will never taste the joys of childhood, begin now. You cannot make your time tell to better advantage. Let us write to—

George W. Childs, editor Public Ledger, Philadelphia, Pa. The usually accurate Ledger said in an editorial, July 21, that Henry George had made poor progress in Australia, and that his day had "come and gone." A few facts well known to us, if courteously presented to Mr. Childs by a few thousand of us at once, would probably alter the Ledger's policy toward our movement.

R. W. Thomas, secretary State grange and editor Farmers' Friend, Mechanicsburg, Cumberland county, Pa.—He advocates taxing everything. Can't we show him the folly of taxing improvements? "Farmers and the Single Tax" (tract No. 5, S. T. library) would be a good one to send him.

D. J. Schuyler, care Taxpayers' association, Chicago, Ill. He recently wrote that body condemning the "extravagant, if not criminal, manner" in which taxes are spent, and that public franchises are given away. "The Single Tax" (tract No. 9) would fit his case. He is shortly to address the above association on "City Franchises and Peoples' Rights."

The Century, Union square, New York.—The leading attraction of the July Century was Messrs. Henry George and Edward Atkinson's discussion of the "Single Tax." Such enterprise tells strongly in our favor, and we should let the editor know that we appreciate it. Telling replies to Edward Atkinson's last article may find place in open letters.

Senator Plumb, Washington, D. C.—Congratulations of every friend of freedom are in order on his speech of August 1. He said, among other things: "The senate owes something to the American people as well as the manufacturers." "The demonstration must be made that every single penny of tax proposed is absolutely necessary." "When the contractor for the state house at Topeka, Kan., needed structural iron beams, he was compelled to import them and pay 103 per cent duty, as our iron manufacturers refused to sell even at this advance, and the same was true of the Texas state house."

Daily Champion, Atchison, Kan.—For thirty years this has been a stalwart republican protective organ. July 31 it announced that, while still republican, "the western farmer has no interest whatever in a protective tariff. His interest lies in the direction of free trade and access to all markets."

Alta, San Francisco, Cal.—In a recent editorial condemns the "keen disposition, not confined to California, to follow a farmer with increased assessment upon his improvements and betterments, so that every nail driven and every board painted counts against him by way of a permanent increase in his taxes. This state needs, as do others, a drastic overhauling of its system of assessment and taxation." "There are signs of discontent among the rural taxpayers, who complain of too great burdens. Unless they are heard and heeded they will make some new politics, and will at least hold the balance of power." But mingled with this wheat is an abundance of chaff—for instance, the statement: "The taxpayers, whose interests are at stake, being only about eight per cent of the population, and without organization, are powerless." Can't we, approving the good, lead the editor upward?

In addition to writing to your own United States senators, urging them to oppose the McKinley bill and the Lodge-Davenport force bill, Senators Vest, Vance, Voorhees, Cockrell, George and Gorman (democrats), and Plumb, Manderson, Hale and Aldrich (republicans), are recommended as hopeful subjects.

Please, reader, send me at once the names and addresses of your local assessors, with an abstract of your local tax laws and how they are obeyed. As soon as a few thousand more recruits join our corps we will move on these assessors in a mass that will astonish them and lead to as practical results elsewhere as the Chicago single tax club obtained unaided. With such a mighty lever as this corps can become speedily if you as-

ist, our united strength can easily "move the world."

Our school books tell us that there are ten thousand and eighty minutes in a week; surely every single tax man, woman and child can spare ten of these to awaken thought and bring our ideas to the attention of the myriad minds now ready for their reception.

W. J. ATKINSON,
P. O. box 271, Haddonfield, N. J.

THE PETITION.

SINGLE TAX ENROLMENT COMMITTEE,
12 UNION SQUARE,
NEW YORK, Aug. 4, 1890.

The single tax enrolment committee is circulating a petition asking the United States house of representatives to appoint a special committee to make inquiry into and report upon the expediency of raising all public revenues by a single tax upon the value of land, irrespective of improvements, to the exclusion of all other taxes, whether in the form of tariffs upon imports, taxes upon internal productions or otherwise. It will send blank petitions on application to any address, and single tax men are urged to obtain petitions and obtain signatures as a most convenient and effective way of starting the discussion.

Subscriptions toward the expenses of this committee's work remain as reported last week, viz., \$3,336.55.

Cash contributions for the week ending August 4, are:

Ernest J. Foord, Chicago, Ill. 40
Sundry contributions in postage stamps 1 78

\$2 18

Contributions previously acknowledged in THE STANDARD 806 79

Total \$808 97

The enrolment now stands as follows:

Reported last week 87,228
Signatures received since last report. 427

Total 87,655

For news budget see "Roll of States."

G. ST. J. LEAVENS, Sec.

NEW YORK CITY.

The managing board of the Manhattan single tax club met last Friday evening and transacted routine business. They will make a very interesting report to the members of the club at the regular monthly meeting, which will be held to-morrow evening (Thursday) at the club rooms, 73 Lexington avenue.

NEW YORK STATE.

H. D. Sheldon, Buffalo.—We have organized, in connection with the People's church, a people's economic congress. It meets weekly for the discussion of social questions. It is not conducted in the interest of any economic theory or theories, but invites men of all views to come together for the full and free discussion of all questions relating to the social conditions existing. We seek the truth. One thing, however, the church itself and the people's congress both heartily subscribe to and emphasize, and that is the doctrine of the "Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of men." Many of the members of the congress are believers in a single tax; others are not.

M. J. Mehan, Syracuse.—The movement is not progressing here as it should.

BROOKLYN.

W. F. Withers.—The following letter has been sent out by the Brooklyn single tax club:

198 LIVINGSTON ST., July 31, 1890.

Wm. J. Gaynor, Esq.—DEAR SIR: We understand that you have been retained by the board of assessors of the town of Flatbush in the matter of the complaint of some large property owners of inequitable valuation of their holdings. We respectfully suggest that it would be in the line of wise public policy for the assessors to use the full discretion which the law allows in standing firm against reduction of valuation of unimproved land and of the property or franchises of such monopolies as the gas and water works companies. The holders of such property have long managed to avoid their full share of local expenses, thus unduly increasing the burdens of all other taxpayers, and we believe that right action by the Flatbush officials will aid the rapidly growing public sentiment in favor of a change.

W. F. WITHERS, Cor. Sec.

MASSACHUSETTS.

THE BOSTON MEN ELECT DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE.

H. C. Romaine, Boston.—At the annual meeting of the Roxbury single tax club the following were elected officers for the ensuing term: President, J. R. Carrett; vice-president, F. W. Mondum; secretary, H. C. Romaine; treasurer, E. Luows.

The club also elected eight delegates to attend the single tax conference to be held in New York, September 1, as follows: J. R. Carrett, F. W. Mondum, W. E. Bell, E. Lucas, W. L. Crozman, C. S. Mitton, H. C. Romaine, Walter A. Verney.

Should any thorough-going single tax men who belong to no club wish to attend the conference, they can send their names to me at No. 250 Ruggles street, when they will be elected and furnished with credentials.

W. Gornall, Taunton.—There are two

things I think the conference ought to consider: (1) The adoption of a single tax button or badge. (2) The publishing of a single tax almanac.

NEW JERSEY.

RESOLUTIONS DENOUNCING THE FORCE BILL—DELEGATES ELECTED TO THE CONFERENCE FROM PATERSON.

J. A. Craig, Paterson.—The force bill was freely and exhaustively discussed at the last meeting of the single tax club, which resulted in the appointment of a committee to draft resolutions condemning it, who reported the following, which was adopted:

Whereas, The people of the United States at the last national election declared by one hundred and sixty thousand majority in favor of tariff reform; and

Whereas, The plutocrats seeing the "writing on the wall" have determined to nullify the will of the people, and to that end have subsidized the workers of the republican party; and

Whereas, The plutocrats, acting through the republican party, have proposed, and are using every effort, to pass the federal election bill, which practically turns over to the republican machine the control of congressional elections; and

Whereas, The doom of the tariff robber is decreed by the people and the issue is now plainly: "Shall the people or the plutocrats rule?" Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Passaic county single tax club protests against this assumption by the plutocrats of the functions of the people, and that we declare and re-affirm our faith in the doctrine of government by the people, and express our detestation and reprobation of this barefaced effort to govern the people by the plutocrats.

Resolved, That the republican party has forfeited, by its indorsement of this infamous measure, the respect of all believers in popular government.

Resolved, That we call upon and strenuously urge all sincere democrats and republicans to carefully read the federal election bill.

Resolved, That we call upon all believers in a "government of the people, by the people, and for the people" to agitate against this undemocratic, un-republican and un-American measure, and to use every effort that can be legitimately used to prevent it becoming a law.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Passaic county papers with a request to publish.

The following were chosen to represent the club at the national single tax conference to be held in New York city on September 1: J. Mick, jr., Wm. Mosley, J. Abbott, J. Ridgway, M. Hughes, J. Hill, J. A. Craig, E. W. Nellis, R. Carroll, P. Breen.

W. Snyder, Trenton.—I intend to be at the conference for one day at least if I possibly can. Am sorry to say that there is no club or organization in our city that could take part in the conference, but have every reason to believe that a start will be made in the near future. The matter of starting an organization was talked of last Friday evening in the D. A. of K. of L., and it was decided to wait until the evenings get cooler. There are two or three single tax men who are members of the D. A. Whether it will be a single tax club or not I can't say. I ring in the "cat" wherever I can. I got one of her paws in at a lodge of the Knights of Pythias last Wednesday night, when I discovered another to take up the fight. And so it goes on; you find them in every woodpile.

John Morrison, Washington.—We have organized the Warren county land and labor club, with H. W. Davis of Oxford, president; myself of Washington, secretary, and H. L. Beatty of Port Murry, treasurer. Mr. Davis and myself will attend the conference. I will give you a few items from our county each month.

WEST VIRGINIA.

A POSTMASTER WHO SEES JUSTICE IN THE SINGLE TAX—A SINGLE TAX MAN NOMINATED FOR THE WEST VIRGINIA HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

W. I. Boreman, Parkersburg.—Here is a letter from another postmaster, in answer to the letters we have been sending out. No flies on him.

MOUNT HOPE, W. Va., July 23.

The Single Tax League, Parkersburg, W. Va.—The blanks which you sent me to be filled were filled at our alliance meeting last Saturday. Handing them to my daughter to mail, she fixed them up and sent them off without a word. Will say I believe I could use four or five hundred, which I will attend to if sent. The single tax seems to be what the people here want. If you have anything to educate the people farther would be glad to know.

C. C. Brown.

Wouldn't it be a good plan to attack the whole alliance business all over the country with Mr. George's speech and our plan? If I had the money I'd do it. The democrats in this part of our state mean to go into the fight with a vim that I never expected of them. The farmers will take a great hand. Our democratic county convention had the nerve to nominate our vice-president, Thos. H. Quinn, on their ticket for the legislature. The single taxers went into their primaries and insisted that this step be taken, and pledged the whole fighting strength of our men to help elect the ticket. The mossback protection element kicked hard against it, but no use. The bulk of the democrats do not shy at free trade worth a cent. Quinn gave them a short speech and caught the

house. Many told him that if they had only known that that was the kind of man he was their delegations would have gone for him solid. The single taxers are right in town, and will talk free trade on the stump from the start.

Two, and probably four, of us will attend the conference. The club will act some time soon.

KENTUCKY.

A FARMER SUBSCRIBER GIVES HIS OPINION OF THE STANDARD—THE LABOR COST OF A SUBSCRIPTION TO IT, IN WHICH IS SHOWN THE BEAUTIES OF THE PROTECTIVE IDEA.

W. Whips, Lakeland, Jefferson county.—For the violation of some law of nature, I suppose, I was arrested by that ever vigilant and most relentless official who waits upon her courts, and familiarly known as "Old Rheumatism." He fettered my legs, shackled my arms, and has held me prisoner in my own house for the last six months.

He has wrenched my muscles, racked my sinews, strained my nerves and stiffened my joints until it's torture to get up when down, or to get down when up; it was agonizing to lie still and excruciating to change my position.

But thanks to Him who orders all things for the best, I am able, though not without great effort, both of mind and muscle, to use my pen, in the use of which I am quite a novice; therefore through it I may not be able to say anything which would be likely to interest others or do credit to myself. Yet it relieves the tedium of those irksome hours that hang so heavily on my hands. But I look forward to the near future, when I trust my strength will return and I shall be able to handle the plow which, by long experience and practical use, I am better adapted to than the pen. Now, I have been taking THE STANDARD for about three years, and what I most sincerely regret is that I did not commence with the first number. If I had to choose between the alternative of having an eye tooth extracted or to be forever debarred from the perusal of the columns of THE STANDARD, I would most unequivocally and emphatically choose the former. For, while the tooth is but a single agent for the mastication of food for the use of the body, which is only mortal and like a dream, which passeth away and is soon forgotten, the latter is good, solid, wholesome and nutritious food, thoroughly masticated and well digested, and perfectly adapted to the growth, strength and full developing of the mind of any honest person who is seeking after truth and righteousness.

And, and there is calomel of common sense, and quinine of reason enough in those columns, if the dem fools would only read them, to purge all the bile of superstition from their now polluted system. If they would, with honest purpose of heart, and as sincere seekers after truth, read but a few numbers of your matchless paper, I think the scales would fall from their eyes and they would see trees as men walking.

The cost of the one year's subscription to THE STANDARD (\$2.50) and that of the literature I have ordered (\$2), when added together, is but a very small amount in cash; but I have to cancel this little bill with labor—measured by products. Now, the one year's subscription to THE STANDARD costs me one barrel of silver skin onion sets—I mention the variety because they bring on the market twenty per cent more than other varieties—and seven barrels of potatoes. The sets were delivered in shipping order, the potatoes were delivered in bulk, I paying the freight as a matter of course. To make it more intelligible I will state it in this way: One year's subscription to THE STANDARD . . . \$2 50

Single tax literature . . . 2 00

One barrel onion sets, delivered . . . \$2 50

Seven do potatoes, do . . . 2 80

By freight and cooperage . . . \$5 30

on sets 24

By do. on potatoes 50

80

So you see, I was out seven barrels of potatoes and one of sets to meet that little bill.

INDIANA.

AN OBJECT LESSON FROM CONNERSVILLE.

William Henry, Connorsville.—Object lessons are abundant for single tax men everywhere. Here is one from Connorsville:

1. The assessor leaves the blank and calls for it a few days afterward.

2. The commissioners find such a decrease in the listing of personal property that they determine to employ a tax ferret to discover the causes of the decrease.

3. The old story. A number of leading citizens have evaded and dodged the assessment—one leading firm to the tune of \$78,000.

4. Presentation to the grand jury; one indictment found and afterward nolleed by the prosecuting attorney; collusion between the assessor, the prosecutor and a leading attorney; records destroyed so that no case could be made.

Reporters from two prominent papers made investigations, but could discover nothing; probably dust thrown in their eyes in the shape of money.

The sequel: The same firm is attempting a reduction of wages to their employees.

There seems to be but two ways to remedy these abuses—either a return to the old Roman tax gatherer's plan of whipping and torture, or adopt the plan of the single tax.

Why is it that workingmen cannot see this? Here in this case the deficiency is supplied from the hard earned wages of the laborer, which are also lowered to aid in the accumulation of that wealth which belongs justly to the toiler. When will workingmen see that the question of taxation lies at the root of the labor problem?

ILLINOIS.

THE GOOD WORK OF THE CHICAGO MEN—A DEBATE ON THE FORCE BILL—THE DELEGATES TO THE CONFERENCE.

Warren Worth Bailey, Chicago, Aug. 1.—As the result of our agitation, nearly \$10,000,000 have been added to the valuations of unimproved lots and lands in this city this year, as shown by the assessor's books, just completed. The significance of this fact will be readily understood by single tax men, and it is to be hoped that our success will encourage others throughout the country to proceed along similar lines, for in effect we are getting the beginnings of the single tax and preparing the way for further and more rapid advances. The pressure which these heavier assessments is already bringing to bear on the speculators is bound to prove almost immediately salutary, and I believe that to a certain degree the injury which the world's fair boom is doing to the masses will be counteracted by this influence, since building cannot but be stimulated and thus rents will necessarily decline. A friend of mine who is a successful real estate operator told me only a few days ago that the prospect of higher taxes on unimproved property was even now forcing holders to unload. This tendency will increase as the time for paying taxes comes on, and if the notion gets abroad, as we mean that it shall, that the speculator is to get a heavier dose next year, and one still heavier in '92, and progressively thereafter, half our victory will be won and half the fruits of it will be in our hands.

The meeting of last night was a gratifying success in every particular, the attendance being large notwithstanding the excessive heat. The Lodge force bill was the subject of discussion, and the speakers included John Z. White, assistant corporation counsel; C. S. Darrow, General M. M. Trumbull ("Wheelbarrow") and General Herman Lieb of the board of county commissioners.

Mr. White opened the discussion with a forcible speech, in which he exposed the true inwardness of the odious measure. He said it was a part of the conspiracy of the Reed-McKinley gang to perpetuate the monopoly power of which they are the servile tools, and he pointed out that if they succeeded in accomplishing the contemplated infamy the protective tariff was safe against all attacks by constitutional methods so long as Messrs. Reed, McKinley, Quay and Dudley should choose to do their own registering, their own counting and their own certification.

Mr. Darrow dwelt at length on the conditions prevailing at the south. He said that the Lodge bill was a menace to the peace of the country, the desperate resort of desperate men bent on establishing a congressional trust for the preservation of illegitimate and tyrannous power. If the measure shall be adopted, he declared, there will be an end of free government. Voting thereafter will be an idle and useless form.

General Trumbull, much to the surprise of the audience, made a strenuous defense of the bill, which he said was in the interest of the poor and oppressed. He warmly assailed the positions of Messrs. White and Darrow, and eloquently appealed to his hearers in behalf of a measure which he said was designed to secure to every man his rights as a citizen under the constitution.

General Lieb followed in a strong and happy speech opposing the Lodge bill, and branding it as the crowning infamy of an infamous regime, after which Mr. White closed the discussion in a masterly and merciless reply to the remarks of General Trumbull. He was vigorously applauded, the audience plainly sharing his views of the bill and of its real purpose.

Among the visitors on this occasion were Mr. Booth of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Mr. Benjamin Reece, C. E., of Brooklyn. The latter will address the club next Thursday evening on "The Mechanics of Social Forces."

On the following Thursday evening General Herman Lieb, of the Cook county board of commissioners, will be the speaker. He will talk on "County Government." General Lieb is one of the leading democrats of Chicago, and he is an aggressive and tireless worker against protection. He deserves and should receive a very cordial reception at the hands of our club.

Mr. Edward Osgood Brown is at his summer home on Mackinaw island.

Mr. Cliff S. Walker of Cincinnati was in the city for a few hours on Thursday.

The Chicago delegates to the New York conference will probably leave here over the B. & O., via Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia, Saturday afternoon, Aug. 30, arriving at New York Sunday evening at 10 o'clock. It is not yet definitely known how many will go, but probably not fewer than half a dozen. It is to be hoped that delegates from the west and northwest will ar-

range to join us here and give us the benefit of their company on the eastward journey.

MISSOURI.

FIVE DELEGATES TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE, AND PERHAPS MORE—FREE TRADERS BEING NOMINATED FOR CONGRESS—"PA" CHASE ON THE WARPATH—WORKING FOR THE PETITION.

Percy Pepon, St. Louis.—Three more delegates to the national conference were elected by the Single tax league at its last meeting, as follows: Bronson C. Keeler, John G. Hummell and C. A. Potwin. The five thus far elected will surely attend. Rev. J. W. Swaw, who has organized four single tax clubs, with an aggregate membership of nearly 500, in the southeastern part of the state, was present and addressed the league. He expects to remain in St. Louis during the summer, and is booked to speak at our next open air meeting. Mr. Swaw is now making arrangements for a single tax picnic under the auspices of the four clubs he has organized, at which the funds will undoubtedly be raised to send him as a delegate to the New York conference.

As per announcement in THE STANDARD, Colonel Tuttle spoke in this city last Wednesday night. The following editorial notice in the Republic is perfectly true, and it is decidedly encouraging to see a thorough single taxer like Colonel Tuttle taking such a prominent place in state politics:

Hon. W. F. Tuttle of Pettis county, a farmer, a scholar and one of the finest orators in the state, was in the city Wednesday, and made a speech at Harugary hall, Tenth and Carr streets, to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Tuttle spoke for nearly two hours, and when he had concluded it was said of him by those who were there that he made the best argument on the tariff question ever heard in this city. Mr. Tuttle will be re-elected to the legislature from Pettis county this year, and when the assembly meets he will probably be elected speaker of the house without opposition. He made a brilliant record as a legislator at the last session of the assembly.

The first democratic congressional nomination in this city, that of Sam Byrns in the Tenth district, now represented by Mr. Kinsey, is more than satisfactory to single taxers and free traders. For some time last winter the single tax league had a letter from Mr. Byrns posted on the wall of our club room, in which he said he was not "up" on the single tax, but was with us on the tariff, and we were all brothers in that we were fighting protection as protection. The Tenth district takes in several country counties as well as the south portion of St. Louis, and Mr. Byrns lives at De Soto. There is little, if any doubt, of his election, and if the other St. Louis districts do anywhere near as well in their nominations St. Louis will be reclaimed next fall from her present disgrace in being represented in congress by three protectionists.

Henry S. Chase, St. Louis, Aug. 1.—The protest against the federal election law, which you refer to as "The Force Bill," in the last STANDARD, was sent to 100 newspapers, 200 reform clubs, all the single tax clubs, to the senators of all the states; then one thousand more distributed on the streets. The circular below will be disposed of in the same way to day:

THE CONSPIRATORS
in congress seem determined to rob the
American people of their
FREEDOM.

Besides the infamous
FEDERAL ELECTION BILL,
to rob us of a free ballot,
they have concocted another bill to steal
away our liberty.

As an excuse to suppress a lottery by law, they propose to destroy the freedom of the press and sanctity of the post office, and put their "mailed hands" into the packages of the express companies.

Citizens, I tell you the days are dark and full of danger.

For your children's sake,
For your country's sake,
AWAKE,
and resist this tyranny.

St. Louis. HENRY S. CHASE.

T. J. Smith, St. Louis.—I have sent in forty signatures to the petition. I intend to keep right along pegging away talking single tax and getting signatures. I have learned to see the cat in almost everything. Going down town one evening last week, in passing a large tract of almost idle land, I remarked to a friend that I saw quite a large cat there. Yes, he said, it appears to be sort of a wild cat.

Arthur Groves, La Due.—With this mail I have sent some petitions to the enrolment committee. The Clinton, Mo., Eye prints a letter in which some crank has been seconding the efforts of the Memphis people in their grand patent inside scheme. I hope the national single tax gathering will be a howling success.

ALABAMA.

HARD TO GET SIGNATURES—A STATEMENT ABOUT THE NEGRO VOTE THAT WILL ASTONISH REPUBLICANS.

E. C. Norton, Mobile.—In nearly every issue of your paper some single taxer writes of how easy it is to get signers to the petition; that they have "only to be shown and parties sign readily," etc., etc.; all of which shows to me that I have certainly the most to contend with of any one reporting to the enrolment committee. In the last three

months I have secured only one signer, although many of those to whom I speak admit a change of opinion upon the tariff, but do not want to commit themselves, even to the extent of asking congress for an examination into the feasibility of raising government revenues by a tax upon land values alone. The truth is, that the late actions of congress, in regard to pending bills, and more especially the force bill, has alarmed the people of the south, and they look with apprehension upon every new idea.

Should the force bill become a law, and the republican party undertake to carry it out in the south, it will wreck that party and end in ruin. May not this bill be a "blind," under cover of which the silver and tariff bills are to be pushed through? There is as much freedom in voting throughout the south as there is in New England factory towns, and the colored voter is and has always been (since he became a voter) the most independent of any in the south.

The most abject and servile men here are white, and have the oftenest been bought and sold, some of whom I have seen bought with a nickel cigar. There are here in this city, to the best of my judgment, fully 500 people who believe in the justness and expediency of the single tax, yet not a dozen men who will come out publicly and advocate the same. Why? If I attend the New York conference, as I hope I may be able to, I will never leave there until I get Mr. George to arrange a southern trip, in which this city shall be included. I desire all single tax men in the state of Alabama to communicate with me, with a view to future action.

KANSAS.

A FREE TRADE SINGLE TAXER NOMINATED FOR CONGRESS, WITH A GOOD PROSPECT OF ELECTION.

J. T. Simpson, Holton.—The signs of the times give me new hope. It would appear that we are on the eve of a complete social upheaval. It looks now in Kansas as if political parties will go down before this revolution in public opinion as manifested by the Farmers' alliance here. They have decided to put a full ticket in the field, as they will doubtless do in every county in the state. There seems to be almost complete unity in their determination to ignore previous party connection. And the best thing about it is that the alliance is becoming saturated with free trade ideas. Free trade men are coming to the front. At a convention of the Seventh congressional district, held at Great Bend last week, Jerry Simpson was nominated a delegate to congress for the big Seventh, and republicans here expect that he will be elected. He is not only a free trader in the limited sense, but one in the full sense of the term, as we single taxers understand it. I speak what I know when I say that for twenty years he has been a keen student of social questions, and a public agitator for the last five years; and in my opinion is fully equipped to represent the alliance in congress better than they know, for few of them understand the cause that underlies their grievances or the remedy to be applied. Let us take courage and go forward. All things are working together for good.

OREGON.

W. E. Norton, Toledo.—I have sent in three more signed petitions. These mean three more voters for the actual thing. Two workmen, one landowner. The latter is a worker in the cause, but admits that he does not see the cat in all its beauty.

The heavens are working. Mr. Gaither refused to accept an apology when I offered it to him, for having gotten his description in THE STANDARD without his permission. He declares that he indorses all THE STANDARD claims for him and is not ashamed of any of it.

Toledo had a fine Fourth of July celebration. The most significant part was the oration delivered by Judge McFadden, of Corvallis. In the latter part of his address he made a strong appeal to the people not to forget that in the purity of the primary meetings lay their only safeguard for the preservation of their liberties, and delicately but pointedly called attention to the dangers of the land getting out of the hands of the people. The whole production, which was written, was a scholarly effort, but the last part created considerable interest. One single taxer at least congratulated the judge on his good words, and many in the audience took special notice of them, and when the single tax man spoke to six or eight of them they admitted that it was in the air.

These petitions are by no means even a partial index to the progress of the good work going on here. There is one state senator and one physician, both high protection republicans, who are so nearly over the line that it will be but a short time before they are avowed single tax men.

CALIFORNIA.

M. L. Gable, Healdsburg.—Up to the time of mailing this letter I have sent seventy signatures to the enrolment committee. I have secured a good assistant in P. Seeland. He is well liked by the lumbermen, as he worked three years with them. Wilson McMillan, another good worker, is working for the petition at Judge's mill, about fourteen miles from here. I send literature up there every week.

THE HEAT TOOK BABY'S LIFE.

A MURDER MOST FOUL, FOR WHICH OUR UNJUST SOCIAL CONDITIONS IS RESPONSIBLE.

New York Press.

When Norah McCormack came into the world by way of Middle alley, in Cherry street, last September, her mother smiled upon her baby and then fell into the slumber that knows no awakening. Norah was an unusually robust baby, full of vitality and dimples. She took kindly to her bottle of condensed milk, and all through the winter kept getting fatter and stronger, until she could stand without help by clinging to a chair. Norah was taken care of by her ten year-old sister, Maggie, upon whose immature shoulders rested the responsibility of caring for the domestic interests of her convivial father, a boy of six and the baby.

Maggie was a fair sample of the little mothers so frequently seen in the poorer quarters of New York. She was prematurely wise and faithful as a dog. The only regret she had when forced to give her attention wholly to housework was that she could not continue going to school. But the vague yearning in her mind to "know something" became more and more vague as the months rolled away, until it was as a dream of impossible fulfillment. A weary, pitiful existence it was for the child, redeemed only by her love for the baby, but none the less heroic.

Norah never suffered for want of attention in the daytime. Sometimes, however, at night, when fatigue had locked Maggie's senses inexorably, the baby awoke and cried and then sobbed herself to sleep again. Maggie was so weary that a thunder clap would not have disturbed her. Up to the month of July the baby had enjoyed excellent health. Then came the heat as from a gigantic blast furnace. All day long the sun poured its fire down into Cherry street until the basement was as hot as the sands of Sahara. The heat invaded the tall tenement and turned the two rooms of the McCormacks into veritable bakers' ovens. The children could see the East river rippled by a breeze as they looked out of the front windows, but not a breath of coolness invaded the stuffy apartments.

Under the influence of this consuming fire Norah began to grow fretful and peevish. The summer sun is very cruel to little children in Cherry street. The baby threw down the stopper of the vinegar bottle and refused to be comforted. She cried continually to be carried in Maggie's arms. She began to lose flesh. In one week all the dimples had gone. The fiery sun was drinking the child's blood. The air which passed into those feeble, panting lungs was not freighted with the scent of apple blossoms and the odorous perfumes of the dewy wood, where verdure cools the air. It was laden with noxious gases and the noisome exhalations from sewers. Dew never sparkles in that blistered locality.

In the evening, when the lamps on the big Brooklyn bridge were lit and the sun had set behind the Statue of Liberty, the moon and the stars came out with a more gentle, kindly ray for the children than the sun had shown, and sometimes these heavenly lanterns brought with them a little breeze, which came sighing down the brick and mortar canyon with a benediction of coolness from the swift river.

Not every evening did these blessed breezes come, but on those rare occasions when the breeze was strong enough to raise the dust Maggie took the baby down to the street and sat on the doorstep. She watched with delight the cool breeze lift the hair from the temples of the child. She knew that coolness meant life and health to the baby. These were brief oases of refreshment which served to temporarily check the progress of the disease slowly eating the baby's vitality. A little of the former brightness came back into the baby's eyes as she reclined in her sister's lap and watched the children darting in and out among the idle trucks. At first Norah could sit up with her head resting against her sister's shoulder. But as the days grew hotter and hotter the baby began to droop more and more, and

Withered like a flower
That is waiting for the rain,

until her head hung over Maggie's arm like a daisy plucked from the meadow. The doctor came once a week to look at baby, but his medicines were of no avail against the awful heat of the fierce sun, and with the loss of vitality came lack of appetite. The condensed milk was always warm, because there was no ice to keep it cool. The neighbors came in now and then with little delicacies, but Norah could not eat them, for desire had failed. One day a richly dressed woman came into Middle alley and gave an invitation to all the mothers to go to an excursion to Rockaway Beach on the Fourth of July. With delightful anticipation Maggie ironed out the baby's calico dress and decorated her cheap bonnet with new ribbon. The excursion will surely cure the baby, she thought. It was a pitiful undertaking, this dressing the baby for a day's outing.

As if to encourage Maggie the Fourth dawned misty and cool. It was a sign to the anxious little mother of hope for the return of health to the baby. Everything was so bright and cheerful on the boat that Maggie thought where there was so much happiness there surely could be no pain. Maggie thought she saw signs of improvement in the baby at first under the influence of the ocean's cool breath. Perhaps the ocean air was too

strong for the baby, or it may have been that the change of the oven air of the tenement was too great for her.

At any rate, after Maggie had listened for half an hour to the delightful strains of "Annie Rooney" and other bewitching airs, as played by the band, she noticed that the baby was lying unusually quiet in her arms. She looked down at the infant and saw that its eyes were closed and that there was a pinched look on its face such as she had never seen before. At first she was alarmed. Then she thought the baby was asleep. It was such a glorious day in Maggie's experience that she did not notice the unusual profoundness of the baby's slumber.

When the excursion returned at night Maggie carried the still sleeping baby back into the wooden oven again and laid her in the cradle. As she removed the calico dress and the little bonnet she noticed that no matter how she shook the child it did not awaken her.

The next morning one of the neighbors came in and prepared the baby for another excursion. She was still asleep. This time the trip was in a carriage to a green field across the East river, where thousands of other babies had preceded her. The field was covered with low mounds and the grass was luxuriant. Under one of these mounds they laid Norah to rest. It is cool and pleasant where the baby is sleeping, and sometimes the birds perch upon the lonely mound in the twilight and sing liquid requiems.

SOCIETY NOTES.

In the carefully constructed nurseries of New York not a corner is tolerated or an angle permitted to go unturned against which baby can do himself bodily injury. The room itself is rounded into an oval or octagon, the window ledges slope, the door knobs are beyond reach and close with a spring, and the furniture is bent birch, bird's-eye maple or some light finished wood, with every post, side and rung rounded like a spindle.—(New York World.)

"The Little Mothers' Day Excursion Fund" is the name of one of the summer charities that blossom out of pity of women for the children of the poor. It is designed to reach those elder sisters in families where "there is little to earn and many to keep," whose daily duty is to "stop at home and mind the baby." For the purpose of giving a day's pleasure to these careworn little mortals a number of ladies have established a fund which is designated as above.—(New York World.)

There is a great variety of icings used by confectioners. The one in ordinary use is a boiled icing. This possesses the virtue of being easily and quickly made and of remaining soft after it is dry. To make this icing, which is in reality a "fondant" (this mixture is the foundation of the delicious cream bonbons of French confectioners), put over the fire in a small sugar boiler or in a nice graniteware saucepan, one cup of granulated sugar, half a cup of boiling water and a pinch of cream tartar. As soon as the sugar melts bring the mixture quickly to the boiling point, and allow it to boil rapidly for about ten minutes. At the end of this time test it by dipping the forefinger and thumb into ice cold water and grasping between them a drop of the sirup taken up with a skewer. If the icing is ready to use when the finger and thumb are drawn apart a thread will be formed. In this case the icing is done. Let it cool, and as soon as it is cool enough to handle, begin to knead it until a creamy mass is formed. The sirup must not be stirred while it is boiling, or the fondant will be spoiled. If the sirup is not boiled to the point that a "thread" is formed from a drop grasped between the thumb and finger, it must be allowed to boil three or four minutes more and tested. If it is cooked too long it will be too hard for use, and more liquid must be added.—(New York Tribune.)

A launch from the police boat Patrol was at the Twenty-third street and the East river this forenoon just as the body of a young woman was taken from the water. It was put on the launch, which was rowed under the morgue and the body was hoisted through a trap door into the dead house. She had been in the water only a couple of days and the beauty of her baby face was not marred. She had wavy brown hair, neatly braided, regular features, good teeth, and finely arched eyebrows. Her eyes were blue, and she was between seventeen and eighteen years old. Part of her garments were gone, as she wore only a green alpaca sack, a black jersey, white underclothing, a slate-colored corset, buttoned gloves and black stockings. Deputy Coroner Jenkins decided that death was due to asphyxia by drowning.—(New York News.)

The latest device in bathing costumes comes from the other side, where it was made for an English woman who has already

worn one similar to it during a season at that kaleidoscopic seaside resort, Trouville. It is made of black satin—the heavy glossy quality that comes with a linen back. The bodice is laid over a tight fitting lining of jean, which is enough support to the figure to enable the wearer to dispense with the stiff corset which many bathers consider indispensable. It is high up about the throat and buttoned securely with cut jet balls. The satin is gathered back and front, and the fullness is "gaged" from the bust line down to a few inches below the waist, where a full skirt, reaching nearly to the knee, is set on with a "buttercup shirring." There are no sleeves. In each armhole is set a crescent shaped piece, which laces across several times at the shoulder and is tied with a black silk cord. Black silk tights, with small satin trunks and shoes of soft black felt that are very pointed at the toes, somewhat like the "shoon" of the period of Richard III, complete this outfit. The fair owner says that satin holds its own against the onslaught of the soft sea waves better than any known fabric. It doesn't cling too closely, and wetting rather improves its luster.—(St. Paul Globe.)

Anote Eruch, age twenty-two, a laborer, was overcome by the heat while at work on the Hoboken coal piers. He died in a short time.—(New York Tribune.)

RECRUIT SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS FOR "THE STANDARD."

For the convenience of persons wishing to send THE STANDARD on trial to their friends, we have prepared recruit subscription books. They are handsomely bound in heavy alligator paper, and sold at prices regulated by the number of blanks in each book.

These blanks are each an order on THE STANDARD to send the paper for four weeks to the person designated, and they save all trouble of remittance as they are paid for in advance. As soon as one of the blanks reaches our business office a postal card is sent to the person designated, informing him that at the request of the sender THE STANDARD will be sent to him for four weeks, beginning with the next issue, and that in case he does not wish to continue it will be stopped at the end of that time. This attracts more attention to it than is given to a sample copy sent out directly from the office.

Every active worker for the single tax should have in his pocket a recruit subscription book, in order that he may be able to tear out the blanks and order the paper sent to anyone with whom he has been having an argument on the subject. If our friends will use the stubs in the books and keep a record of those to whom they order the paper sent they will be able to follow the matter up and probably make converts. The price of the books is as follows:

Five subscriptions \$1 00
Twelve subscriptions 2 00
Thirty-five subscriptions 5 00

THE STANDARD,

No. 12 Union square, New York city.

NOW, WHO IS THE WORST MAN UNHUNG?

Boston Globe.

Rev. Benjamin Waugh has testified before a committee of the British house of lords that every year "a thousand children are murdered for insurance money in England." Such testimony is calculated to make Jack the Ripper feel that he is not the worst man who goes unhung in England.

LOVELY AS A ROSE!

As we gaze upon a new-blown rose, we involuntarily exclaim, "How lovely!" Our admiration is excited by the color and delicate tints of the flower. So it is with

A Beautiful Maiden.

Her clear velvet-like skin and peach-bloom complexion fascinate us. These exquisite charms always result from the use of

GLENN'S SULPHUR SOAP.

A never-failing remedy for removing all imperfections from the skin and making the complexion

PEERLESSLY BEAUTIFUL.

FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.
Glenn's Soap will be sent by mail for 30 cts. for one cake, or 75 cts. for three cakes by C. N. CRITTON, Sole Proprietor, 115 Fulton Street, New York City.

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PURE, SOLUBLE, DELICIOUS. THE FOREMOST COCOA OF EUROPE. THE COMING ONE OF AMERICA. Easy Dipped—Made Instantly. HIGHEST AWARDS AT THE PRINCIPAL EXHIBITIONS. The Original—Yale no other.

VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA

"Best & Goes Farthest—Largest Sale in the World—Once Tried, Always Used."

SINGLE TAX ORGANIZATIONS.

(Secretaries of clubs are requested to send any corrections in the list below, and all newly formed organizations are asked to report promptly, either to the Enrollment committee or The Standard.)

ARKANSAS.

LITTLE ROCK.—Little Rock single tax club. Every alternate Thursday evening, 717 Main st. Pres., Sol F. Clark; sec., O. D. Hemming, 1910 Main st.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO.—California single tax society. Every Sunday evening, St. George's hall, 909 1/2 Market st. Library and reading room open from 9 a. m. to 10 p. m., 841 Market st. Pres., L. M. Manzer; sec., H. M. Welcome; fin. sec., John A. Maynard. Address of all officers, 841 Market st.

SACRAMENTO.—Single tax club of Sacramento. Every Friday evening, Dr. Reed's office, 6th and K sts. Pres., Dr. Thos. B. Reed; sec., C. W. Farnsworth, 1406 4th st.

OAKLAND.—Single tax club No. 1 meets every Friday evening at St. Andrews hall, 1056 1/2 Broadway. Pres., A. J. Gregg; sec., E. H. Harkins.

LOS ANGELES.—Los Angeles single tax club. Pres., J. J. Harrell; sec., Clarence A. Miller.

SAN DIEGO.—Single tax question club meets every Sunday afternoon, 2 p. m., at Horton hall. County committee room, 444 5th st. Geo. B. Whaley, chairman.

BLACK DIAMOND.—Contra Costa county single tax committee. Jeff. A. Bailey, sec.

COLORADO.

STATE.—Colorado State single tax association, 303 16th st. Pres., A. W. Elder; sec., H. C. Niles; treas., Geo. Champion.

DENVER.—Denver single tax association. Every Thursday evening, 303 16th st. Free reading room open every day, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Pres., G. H. Phelps; sec., H. C. Niles, 303 16th st.

PUEBLO.—Commonwealth single tax club. First and Fourth Thursdays at office of D. B. V. Reeve, Union av. Pres., D. B. V. Reeve; sec., J. W. Brentlinger, Pueblo Smelting and Refining Co.

GRAND JUNCTION.—Mesa county single tax and ballot reform club. Pres., James W. Bucklin; sec., Geo. Smith.

CANYON CITY.—Single tax committee; sec., Dr. Frank P. Blake.

CONNECTICUT.

DANBURY.—Single tax club. Pres., John E. Jones; sec., W. E. Grumman. Address for the present, Sam E. Mann, 10 Montgomery st.

NEW HAVEN.—Tax reform club. Every Friday evening. Pres., Willard D. Warren, room 11, 102 Orange st.; sec., Alfred Smith, 105 Day st.

MERIDEN.—Meriden single tax club. 3 p. m. every Sunday, Circle hall. Pres., Wm. Hawthorne; sec., Wm. Willis, P. O. box 1342.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON.—Washington single tax league; always open; regular meeting Friday evening, 609 F street, N. W. Pres., Paul T. Bowen; sec., Wm. Geddes, M. D., 1719 G st., N. W.

FLORIDA.

PENSACOLA.—Pensacola single tax club No. 1. Tuesday evenings, K. of L. hall, corner of Saragosa and Palafox sts. Pres., J. Dennis Wolff; sec., James McHugh.

TAMPA.—Thomas G. Shearman single tax league. First Monday in each month, business meeting; Sundays, public speaking. Pres., C. E. Ainsworth; sec., John H. McCormick.

GEORGIA.

ATLANTA.—Atlanta single tax club No. 1. Pres., J. M. Beath; sec., J. Henley Smith, 67 Whitehall st.

AUGUSTA.—Augusta single tax club. Every Friday evening, Hussar hall. Pres., Ed. Flury; sec. George Haines, care of Lofin & Meyer.

ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO.—Chicago single tax club No. 1. Every Thursday evening, club room 4, Grand Pacific hotel. Pres., Warren Worth Bailey; sec., F. W. Irwin, 217 La Salle st., room 835.

SPRINGFIELD.—Sangamon single tax club. Pres., Joseph Farris; sec., James H. McCrea, 623 Black ave.

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QUINCY.—Gem City single tax club. Every Friday evening, Opera house building. Pres., C. F. Perry; cor. sec., Duke Schroer, 327 S. 3d.

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THE MOUNTAIN.—Single tax club. Pres., H. B. Allison, box 4; sec., J. Ballance.

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STATE.—Single tax state central committee of Massachusetts. Pres., Edwin M. White, 1498 Washington st., Boston; sec., G. K. Anderson, 30 Hanover st., Boston.

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READING.—Reading single tax society. Monday evenings, 522 Court st. Pres., Chas. S. Prizer; sec., Wm. H. McKinney, 522 Court st.

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